

Sunday

Sweetheart;

Well, we're out here in the woods and I'm reconciling myself to this fate by remembering that only one more day remains of this bivouac. I asked the C.O. about a three day pass for next week and he told me to drop in the first thing Tuesday morning and he'd fix me up, but he just got notice today that he was leaving Tuesday. It's a toss up now whether I can get back to the company before he finally departs or not. If he's still there when I get back Monday nite, [sic] or if he's in at all on [scratched out word] Tuesday I can nail him and get the pass. If not I'll have to see the new C.O. and put some pressure on him. At any rate, Darling. I feel quite sure that I'll be able to get to Lansing this week.

2.

I got your letter and box of brownies today. Thank you a million for both of them Sweet. They were both wonderful. Darling, I'm sorry I confused you about that phone call. What I meant by saying that I got cold feet and did not ask you to marry me the other morning is this. I meant to say to you "Dolores, my very sweetest Darling, I want you to marry me. I want that very much. Will you please marry me next week if I can get a three day pass." Instead I merely said "I don't suppose we could get married if I got a three day pass next week, could we?" A telephone is such an impersonal object when you really want to take the person you're talking to into your arms and hold her and kiss her ever so gently and then speak with her. I do love you so Sweet. I always will and can hardly wait to have you once again in my arms.

3.

It's far more than a case of merely being lonesome for you. I suppose being lonesome is a broad description of my present feeling but it's lonesomeness for you and such lonesomeness has only one basis – Love. I do love you.

This life in the woods isn't too bad. In fact, since I have no incentive to go to Rockford, I would just as soon have been out here all the time. One of the fellows who was in the tent next to Touma's and mine moved in with us and we put up a double tent – like this – [sketch of tents on ground] We put the open ends together and then there's no opening in case it rains. If we want to let some air in we just open it – like this [drawing of open tent on ground] It's nice and cool this way.

4.

Since Touma is the master sergeant in charge of supply we have plenty of comforters to use as beds. We use two doubled up blankets with a doubled up comforter for a mattress and then roll up in another comforter. Last nite [sic] was about the first nite [sic] I've slept well since I went on bivouac. I also rode out here on the supply truck instead of marching out. It's quite a good deal. I hope I'm able to do the same in going back. We have a ten mile hike on the way back going back by way of Robin Hood's barn.

The river is lined on both sides by fellows fishing. All the boys have made improvised fish hooks and lines and are having a wonderful time dragging fish out of the good old Kishwaukee River.

Yesterday afternoon I was taken in and made a litter bearer along with several of the other boys.

5.

One of the fellows here is explaining to me the trouble they had at the post he was at. It seems that the WACs were trying to get in as members of the non commissioned officers club and there was a lot of opposition from the Wac Haters. They finally were admitted as associate members without the privilege of holding office. These fellows are quite bitter about Wacs and claim that the vast majority of them are nothing but professional prostitutes. One of the fellows was in Fort Washington and says that that's what conditions are there.

Touma is taking quite a kidding about Port Huron. He is extolling the vestures of the place. We are all giving him the business – as we say here and are kidding the devil out of him.

6.

Gosh, you know it's getting dark already. I'll have to leave you again. I'll be back tomorrow though and will let you know how I make out on that thru day pass. I'm almost positive I'll get it. I've just got to. Goodnite [sic] Sweetheart. I love you now and forever and I always will. I send you

All my love and hugs & kisses

Freddie