

[added note: Aug 44]

Friday Night

Sweetheart;

I am on C.Q? tonight so you will once again receive a type-written letter from me. I am going to try to get my pass at the time I go off duty but I may not be successful in this endeavor. The C.O. has given specific orders that no passes are to be given out till after retreat but I'm going to go to work on the first sergeant to exert a little influence to convince the C.O. that I will be doing as much good to the war effort in Lansing as I would be doing here asleep. I have a point there and I am going to push it to the utmost

For a while I was very worried because regimental headquarters put out an order restricting the company for ninety six hours before shipping time which would have meant that we would have to stay in all through the long weekend. Luckily the C.O. became human long enough to have this restriction lifted long enough so we can have the weekend off. Our restriction starts Monday morning at two and extends until we leave Camp Grant. I'm glad that happened because I do want to see you again so badly Darling. You're so very sweet and I love you so very much that I want to spend every possible moment with you. I think you understand just how I feel, don't you. I think you do, Gosh, Sweet, it will be so nice being with you once again.

This typewriter is a very old and equally weird instrument. Half the fixtures are missing and the keys are continually sticking so that all in all I am having quite a struggle here.

I got another letter from Mom today. She didn't have much of anything to say but I guess she feels rather blue at the prospect of my going overseas. I didn't know whether to tell her or not by then I decided that it would probably be best to get her used to the idea gradually rather than suddenly confront her with an A.P.O. number. Do you

[2.]

think that was wise?

There wasn't much to do today so I did a fair sized laundry. I just let the stuff soak overnight in hot water and this noon I scrubbed it well with G.I. soap and a scrubbing brush. They really came out very well if I do say so myself. They dried in no time at all since it was quite windy out today and the sun was shining quite brightly. I contemplated washing out my sun tans but then realized that I had better not impose myself while I was in this mood or I would spoil all future desire to do any of this work. You see I am a very temperamental person and I resent very much being imposed upon by people of my type so I have to be extremely delicate in my dealings with myself, handling myself with kid gloves as it were. You see what I ma [sic] mean don't you? One just can't let himself be kicked around can one?

I was slightly peeved with the supply sergeant and his staff this morning when they came around picking up all the buckets in the company. Mine happened to be full of clothes which were soaking so they merely dumped the clothes on the floor of the tent and went off with the bucket. I had to go to the supply tent and sign out for the bucket again so I could finish my wash. Such stupidity they are capable of without even trying hard to be stupid; such stupidity must be well deserved [sic]

The notes you sent on the origin of names were interesting. I also disagree with the author when he says that the name Ellen is not better than Helen. I am partial to the name Ellen because that was the name of the great aunt who brought me up. I never realized that the name Lee came from lea. We have great names don't we, yours means sorrows and mine means crafty counselor. I don't think very much of that but I can always claim that my legal name is Paul, which it is on my birth certificate, the name which is very prominent among saints (please take note of this) , kings and princes

[3.]

The books which I would like to have on that list which you sent me are:

FIVE GREAT TRAGEDIES *****	William Shakespeare	#3
FIVE GREAT COMEDIES*****	William Shakespeare	#114
SHERLOCK HOMLES POCKET BOOK***	A. Conan Doyle	#95
AAF OFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE ARMY AIR FORCES		#265
THE MALTESE FALCON*****	Dashiell Hammett	#
	Eric Ambler	
JOURNEY INTO FEAR*****		#193
MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY*****	Nordhoff & Hall	#216
ONE WORLD*****	Wendell Willkie	#229
POCKET BOOK OF MODERN AMERICAN SHORT STORIES		#238
U.S. FOREIGN POLICY*****		#244

These are the only ones I haven't read which appeal to me at all.

I think that the damned classification department here had given me a royal run around. If my suspicions are well founded, and I am sure that they are, I have been made a surgical technician by the simple mean of their writing a new spec number in on the list of army specialties I am credited with. If they did do this I think it's a damned shame because they are putting me on a spot where training far above any that I have had is needed and where lives are dependent on this training. One of the fellows in personall [sic] told me about this change in spec numbers. He also told me that he thought that Howard Gold was going to Camp Reynolds, the lucky fellow. Why couldn't that happen to me?

The C.O. very thoughtfully left his dog here tonight. I happened to step on the animal accidentally and one of the numerous brownnosing first sergeants who hang around the orderly room cooed very sweetly "Ooh! Did he step on the little dog.", patting the animals head and smiling inanely at it. That really made me angry and I turned around and said "Yes, he did step on the little dog. He did not seem to like the tone I used.

[4.]

It now approaches the midnight hour when the witches and banshees once more roam the dark and dusty corners of the night, and when lovers look heavenward and, beholding such a moon as one is privileged to behold this evening, dream wonderful dreams of their beloved one even as I just did. The moon is splendid tonight it reminds me that I would like so much to be strolling with you along the

banks of beautiful Red Cedar River by the light of this moon telling you how much I love you and how wonderful will be the days after the war when we are married and will be together always. I hope that I am able to be with you tomorrow night and that the moon is just as it is tonight. It's all very romantic Sweet, and will be more so with you at my side. I LOVE YOU!

I think that I shall now try to get a little sleep so I'll be able to soay [sic] awake tomorrow if I do get the pass, Goodnight my Darling. I hope to see you tomorrow afternoon but in the even that I don't I will see you Sunday and also tonight in my dreams.

All My Love and Kisses

Freddie