

Friday –

Darling;

I got in here all right, arriving shortly before noon time – just in time to eat. No one seems to be in the least put out [scratched out word] by the fact that I was late, in fact I think that I could very well have put off returning until this evening and nothing would have been said. I wish I had known that. Almost everyone is on three day pass and they are all dye back by sic tomorrow morning. They left Tuesday nite. [sic] I guess there will be no week end passes for anyone this weekend

I feel asleep almost as soon as the train pulled out of the station at Lansing and didn't wake up until I was just outside of Chicago this morning. A very refreshing sleep if I do say so. I got into Chicago at about 8:05 and caught a train for Rockford at 8:55. Very good connections. I was surprised to get into Chicago that early. [scratched out word]

There's absolutely nothing going on in the company at the present time. They called the company out so I fled to the sheltering arms of Bob Kennedy here at the 36<sup>th</sup> after first handing in a lot of my extraneous clothing and equipment, including all my filed materia [sic] – thank God – and my gad mask. The first part of this week Bob and Howard Gold went to personnel to see if they could get their names places on the POR list rather than risk

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going to Fort Lewis. They were successful. Howard is going with me and Bob is not sure yet just who he is going with. I hope that he also ends up in my shipment because it would help considerably to go with someone I know. Bob just got the letter I mailed yesterday. Pretty good service.

Why did the week end have to end – Not the week end – I'm all confused again – the three day pass is really what I mean. It was all too short. I guess anything less than permanence would be too short tho. [sic] It was wonderful while it lasted. Every minute of it was wonderful. We most certainly will have to have a fireplace in our home so we can lie down before a nice warm fire and make love. --Red Hot Love. Do you think it'll be very long before we're together Sweetheart?

Later

I just got back from seeing the picture "Janie" which is absolutely tops Darling. You want to see it as soon as possible because it is wonderful. I can't remember having laughed as much in any picture as I did in that one. It's the story of a 17 year old girl into whose life comes a whole regiment of soldiers. The cast is wonderful.

I went to the show with Bob and afterward we stopped in and picked up Bill Barnhart who was hard at work in his office. He's a very conscientious fellow I guess. He showed us the new clothes he got and told us that among other things he would get when he got to the POE was a turtle neck sweater and one of the new blouses.

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The turtle neck sweater sounds like a very good idea. I always liked the idea of having one and now my lifelong ambition will be realized. Isn't the army wonderful.

A lot of the fellows are in here sending home their belongings – the extra matter that is. They're all working like beavers and the supply of paper and string is rapidly being depleted. I'm going to try to take as much of my stuff as I can when I leave here. Most of the fellows send home a lot of things which they could take overseas to very good advantage. I wish I had a camera to take, but I guess that I don't really need one because I'll be able to draw and sketch most of the things. That'll be easier because I won't have to worry about the development of film.

One of the fellows from Lansing went overseas to India and wrote back telling the fellows to bring clogs overseas with them – the shower dog variety – because of the fact that there are a lot of yaus there which enter the body thru [sic] the feet if you go around barefooted. Upon inquiry I discovered that yaus [sic] are quite similar to [sic] syphilis except in the manners acquired. One of them minimizes against the other so that if you've had one you can't get the other. Bob mused that, if that were the case, it would be much more pleasurable to acquire syphilis than the acquisition of yaus [sic] would be. Such a thought to have. Acquiring it that way would be immoral.

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I'll close now Darling but will write a longer letter tomorrow when I am less tired than I am at present. So for the present dear we'll have to part reminding you that you are my own very dearly beloved Sweetheart and that

I love you

Freddie