

[added note: Aug 44]

Wednesday

Hello Darling

I hope you'll excuse my bedraggled appearance but it's raining out and when it rains I get soaked thoroughly whether I wear a raincoat or not. If I wear one the rubber coating on the inside of the coat sweats and the inside gets as wet as the outside. It's all very discouraging but there's nothing I can do about it. The shirt I have on isn't made of very good material either and wrinkles very easily. All in all, I'm glad you can't see me as I am, I look like something the cat would fear to drag in.

We wasted away an hour this morning satisfying the C.O.'s ego by allowing him to assert his authority and make us police our company area four times in rapid succession.

2.

he's a terrific pain in the neck and is perhaps the most unreasonable man I have ever run across.

We may get week end passes this week. In fact I may possibly be able to get off Saturday morning. I was scheduled for a detail soon and was sure it would be guard duty on Saturday night. Instead I am C.Q. on Friday. I'm not sure whether the C.Q. gets the next day off or not but I think he does and if so I can get my week end pass Saturday morning, if they give week end passes. That would be swell and I'm hoping against hope that it all comes true. It probably won't but I can hope can't I? I would love being with you for a couple of days Sweetheart, it would be so nice to see you again before I leave because California is so very far away and the Pacific Theater so much

3.

farther. At least we will be together in our letters and our postwar planning. That will be very wonderful.

Got a letter from Mona today in which she told me that Dad was getting along swell and that the doctor was doing a lot for him. Pauline is now working in the office of General Electric Co. and likes the work quite well after the job she had while we were home. Charlie gave her a dog, part hound and part terrier whatever that mixture looks like, and the responsibility of house breaking him falls on Mom. The dog is just a pup and Mom says that she just follows him around that house with a rag in her hand. Arthur's friend Joe is home and I guess Art misses him quite a bit from the last letter he wrote mom.

4.

Joe wrote Mom that he would come to Lynn this next Sunday. He said in his letter that he was quite sure Art would be home by Christmas and that he'd tell her all about it when he got to Lynn. Mom is quite nervous and anxious to speak with him. I'd like very much to see Joe myself. I haven't seen him in four years now. In fact I'd like very much to see Arthur. Maybe I'll run across him if I go to the South Pacific. I sure would like to, I haven't seen him in so long. I'll bet he has changed a lot.

I got your list of desired Christmas gifts and will refer your letter to Mr. S. Claus for action. You'll have to await your turn though. I'm quite sure that he will consider your applications favorably, however, since you are one of his very favorite customers. I'll try to get him to pay special attention to your case.

5.

It would be very nice of you to do my Christmas shopping for me Darling. I'll take advantage of that offer and will send you a list of the things I want you to get when the time comes to get things for Christmas. Don't think for a minute that I'm going to let you get your own gift though because I won't and you'd be surprised to learn when and how I'm going to buy your gift. You just wait and see, You'll find out in due time.

Bill Barnhart leaves at 3:30 am and will go to Camp Joyce Kilmer in New Jersey from where he will probably go to England, the lucky dog. He's a very nice fellow and I hate to see him go. We had plenty of fun together. Bob leaves early Saturday for Beale and I will close Camp Grant next Wednesday.

6.

Ah me! I never thought I'd leave here. The only nice thing about it was the fact that I can get to Lansing on a week end pass.

I got some of my new clothes today. All the new underwear is a nice tobacco brown now, as are towels, socks, and handkerchiefs; the idea being that they are not so conspicuous in battle sectors as white clothing would be. At Beale we should draw combat shoes, a suede show which is built fairly high to support the ankles. They are supposed to be fairly comfortable. I hope so because I dislike shoes very much and will be glad when I can once more wear light shoes or sandals to rest my feet.

Bob and I are going to have a few pre payday beers this evening. We got a couple of dollars from Touma and will use them in a good cause.

7.

I've decided to wait till I get to Beale to take out insurance. I may have some trying days when I'll want an excuse to get away from the company area. By the way Darling, when I'm there I'll have to temper my letter with caution because I believe that they will be censored. They are censored either there or at the P.O.E. I don't know which as any note, don't be alarmed if some the things which I put in my present letters such as comments on particular phases of training and about officers etc. are missing. I'll start a diary in which I'll write a blow by blow description of the current events and you can read them after the war.

Time is frightening right now my Sweetheart so I'll have to leave

8.

you once again sending you all my love and kisses and telling you that I am

Yours Forever

Freddie