

A.M. & P.M.

1943

May 10.

Dear ones,

I guess I got my first gig this morning - I hope it is not more than 1 demerit. The drill instructor found my nameplate at a slight angle and about 1/4 inch off. The total number of gigs for the entire day is posted in the late evening when we return from study hall.

I hope that my letters have not been too encouraging. I want you to be prepared for the worst as well as for the best. Don't think that one or two demerits are getting me down tho. The point is: no matter how well I think I am doing, I know I am capable of doing, I never get even the slightest inkling of how I actually stand, whether I am meeting the standard. For instance I may be O.K. in class + band + basketball, but they may just not like the way I march or relax when at ease. You can't tell a thing from their faces - they are cold, unfriendly, accusing, yet non-committal. I will admit that drill is not my strong point. It is hard to concentrate on just marching around and yet that is absolutely essential. I try my best - but remember we are tired at all times and the extra burden combined with a degree of tension at the morning drill period is really tough. I can learn the Infantry Drill Regulations and I think I am capable of intelligent instruction. I just have to keep concentrating on what I have to do. I'll be honest - when I write it out like this to you and analyze it, it doesn't seem as bad as it does when you know there are a lot of eyes on you at the drill field. Maybe it's just because it's a damp, chilly, blue Monday. But I do not want to be overconfident. I don't want to build up your hopes too high. It is a good experience. I can't permit to try it at my best. (I think that just about covers that topic - I don't think I can squeeze any more letter material out of it).

I just got your mail and some packages - God only knows how I'll get rid of all the stuff. Then again, the boys in the barracks may ask it to be

supply the answer. as for the widgou Thomas
information - I want him as a credit, not
a character reference. That is, the question was
designed for people in business to see whether my
credit is good. You know what I mean. Gueyway -
I got to be a first class kept. I also
received the Bulletin. I made a big mistake. I
wrote to N. Godey - I don't regret this mistake -
I don't want any publicity now. I get my bias. I
want to spare explanations if by some mishap they
become necessary.

I can't think of anything else; there is a little
to write of new news. All the week is a one
hell of a rush of writing. I spend hours - I
am signing them up for the happy day when
we'll be together again - lots of love & kisses,

Love,
Lumney.

If I fall asleep in class, I'll get a no way
ticket out of OCS, or concentration & alertness are
my watchwords.
P.M.

8.30 I received food from Roxbury as well as letters;
please thank them - ask them to keep up the letters.
but no more food - & thank them again in
advance.