



May 30, 1943

Dear Ones,

I did not call last night
in view of the letters I received
telling me of your respective
excursions to Naples and to Boston.
I will try to call tonight at 9:30, if
the opportunity presents itself; if I
do, this letter will just be a refresher.

Yesterday my ten minute speech
came off fairly well, about 70 of us
gave them, the rest of the class will
give theirs in the course of the next 4
weeks. I am relaxed on the next 4 Saturdays.
I, of course, had that feeling of newness

as I started but I rolled right along
after the first words were out. I did
get quite confused on my subject matter
but I think they were looking more
for presence, personality, and voice. I think
I'm sure. I put myself across on those
facts.

Last night I perused my pants and
wrote a note to Uncle Sam. He and
I are going to try to speak to each
other sometime during the week. I
hope the arrangements work out. You know
how tough the phone problem is in army
centers. Incidentally, I am waiting
this while waiting for my weekly
haircut. I just got up after a good
hours of refreshing sleep, took a
shower, and rushed over here to beat the



mob; today I will also
try to write letters to Aunt
Ethel and to your street - very
faithful sources of correspondence.

as for my status, what I noted
in the last letter still applies - this
is the week of sweating. Since my
name begins with B (I'm in the first
barracks and the first Platoon) I'll
have my interview early in the
week. There are two boards - the
company board and the auxiliary board;
they are divided just for administrative
convenience and to get the job done
quicker - but it is usually a better
sign if you go before the auxiliary

board - but either we can send
a candidate up to the washout
board. As the tenuring is there no
matter which board you see. Then
around Friday those unfortunate
individuals whose names have black
marks go before the school (or
washout) board and sweat until
the next Tuesday when those who
are being relieved are notified. So
when I call up next weekend you
will understand my joy at not
having been up before the washout
board - at least so I hope. But
be prepared for everything - just
in case. It will may be a big
pitfall for me to walk my way out of.



as a last word in this
 spirit I must describe the
 barber we have here in our area.
 His shop is at one end of the px.
 It is a bar room, littered with
 paper usually. about 10 chairs
 line the room. There is one barber
 and no chair (I think he only
 has one close clipper, one coarse
 clipper, no scissors, one razor and
 one comb also.) anyway - except
 for this morning for some unknown reason -
 there is always a mob there. The
 result is that the barber - a wispyish
 little Italian - gives a 5 minute
 haircut. at least it's technically

a haircut and he gets 35¢ for it.
the chips, he cuts and brings etc
over. It's really a lot.

OK. I feel fine - I love
your letters and the occasional
food shipments.

Love,
Sumner

I am enclosing the enclosed check.