

June 9

Dear Ones,

Now I am relaxing - that is
definitely newsworthy. By, did it
rain today! a real "pluiche," as
we used to say in Spain; we
got soaked in a great big way but
we mixed drill so it was not too
bad. In my courses, I am doing well,
very ^{well} compared to some of the others, but
they both are poorly given and poorly
organized. It is hard to concentrate
and maintain interest; it is awfully
easy to divorce one's extremes
of weather - a brisk cold wind came
with the rain - makes it every
tougher. As for drill, I really haven't
been called out to do a big job as
yet. I have no idea of my grade.

I am making a very conscious effort
to improve my posture and my
marching.

I never told you how my new
renewer went over Friday - it
went over swell. I keep up on my
news of the day and my knowledge
of geography and history are marvelous
supplements. A Princeton fellow
also Appel from Indianapolis -
and I - who are very friendly - he
went to Harvard B School also - plan
to prepare quizes and propositions
to keep the rest of the class on the
ball. It's amazing to me coming
from school how basically intelli-
gent men have as little
curiosity for news and its
interpretation. We are trying to
meet that.

There is little more to say. I
have received many packages but
your mail invariably comes in
bunches of 3 or four letters at a
time. Nothing can be done about
it, I'm afraid. Needless to say,
things are on a very even keel here
now again - but we have got our
room in the barracks as you can
imagine.

These weeks I must admit are
passing a little heavy; the tension
that speeded the first weeks play
has eased. We are not doing
a thing - the fear of the
usually small second war
is not really stressed and
we are looking forward to the
last few weeks spent in technical.

We have learned something of
those who washed out - those
of the 72 unfortunates who
were not activated into a
maintenance company cadre
(there are about 26 in such a
basic cadre of am - coms. leaning
some 45 men) were they
shipped to Jefferson Barracks for
reassignment if they came from
the air caps regularly or ~~the~~
were sent to Port of
Embarkation (POE's) in
Pennsylvania or California. The
latter (POE) is a tough fate; they
may get further training and they
again they may be put in Casual

companies for reserve pools. There's
no sense kidding, a POE means
reserve service in 7 out of 10

cases; the army ignores your
qualifications apparently unless
you have a specialty or are requested
by your old outfit (air corps always
requests you back) your fate is
a POE usually. Another reason
for working and winning those
bars from a very realistic point
of view. I'd rather be a lieutenant
reserve than a corporal.

Well, we go to study hall in
a few minutes - Love,

Sumner