

april 7, 1943

Dear ones,

I trust you got my card (incidentally, mother, when it comes to interruptions while writing letters, you can't beat me - I start a letter, then I have to fall out, or get a rifle, and I may not return to it for 2 or 3 hours.) Anyway I'm trying to write this before retreat - I probably won't make it.

anyway, as I said in the card, ask me a birth certificate and letter of recommendation from Wigg, Wiggins, Sadfrey, Patrick (if he's still around) and anyone else you can think off. The story is that the army is not keen on clergymen & politicians. Perhaps Bill Medelman would be a good one. I can't think of any, but army officers not relatives! would be perfect.

The only reason I am not writing
to the Village people directly is
the lack of time. ^{+ I don't know some of the addresses} Please explain
that to them. I'm sure they'll
understand. Save them stress my
leadership, my activities, my
intelligence and abilities, ^{roughly} in that
order. I will try to get a letter
from Dawson; I will subtly
tell him, also, what I want him
to say. Send all the letters to
me and I will use as many
as I need as are advisable.
Speed is essential. Please
rush the letters & the certificate.
If you ^{can} ~~not~~ think of a good
person I am ~~not~~, either
omitting

get ~~him~~ ^{him} & have me write to ~~him~~ ^{him}.
I just happened to think (I have
now eaten supper) what about
Dave Bennington - he's in the army.
Do you know his address - please write for me.
I could get the letter and use it if
it's O.K. That about covers

this matter. Please take care of
things for me & explain to
the references why I couldn't
contact them directly. I know you
will do the job effectively and
quickly. Thanks.

Today we reached the half-
way point in basic; I think the
next 2½ weeks will go very quickly.
altho we have to get all these
papers for O.C.S. I still know next
to nothing about my possibilities.
Everyone around here has at

least a trace of a cold. Fortunately
my feet, my colds - all are in pretty
fair shape. I have no idea what
I weigh; I do know I am eating too
much candy (in the ten minute breaks
between periods) but it picks me up,
tastes good, and I wash my teeth
carefully. I must admit that I also
eat an occasional cough drop & use
an occasional ~~nose~~ nose drop to keep in
shape.

Tonight there is a company dance
(300 fellows - 50 girls). I will go if
I have time. I want to write to
Dave Owen and I have to clean my
gun. I wrote to Mrs. Ewman last
night.

Pretty soon we get a 3 day spell
in the influenza. naturally it will