

June 22, 44

Dear Ones -

Quite a batch of mail this morning - I didn't have time to write you last night. I went down to the company for supper and to see how the orientation program works out. I am getting to know the company officers and through them the picture of the enlisted men. The officers in their outlook and their work are superior to the 730th bunch but the enlisted men will have to be pretty good to equal those old boys. Next week I will talk to them for a few minutes gradually I will get to know them better. I surely hope that they respond the way the 730th did - we had swell discussions there. Time will tell. It was the first time I ever had driven to the company area alone - driving back at night was quite the stuff but my memory and sense of direction brought me through around Ok. I had visions of wandering all over the island trying to find my way, but I exaggerated the danger.

I heard from Ruthie and TIME - I sent them my new address, my subscription is being held up until they get it. I think D Day led people to write to me - the spirit of the day and all that, I guess. Glad the cottage problems are working up. By this time Aunt Etta and Grandpa must be well settled at the cottage - I hope everything is running along in smooth style. I got the Campaign Yearbook - I thought it pretty poor in makeup etc; it looked just thrown together in a hurry. I get a kick out of your thinking I am in Hawaii and hoping I am having a good time with Phil Cowan!! I've still got my fingers crossed for Hildreth; Portland political activity is certainly encouraging.

So Gwen Cushing is tying the knot too. This marriage business must be catchy. I am afraid I am out of the contagious area out here. What interested me was that Gwen made Phi Beta; she is a swell kid, I've always liked her; intelligent, but certainly not brilliant; I wonder what would have happened if I had gone to a small school - but I wouldn't swap being a little fish in the Harvard ocean for anything, I think my 'football' letter shows that.

Tough for Uncle Lou - naturally I am laughing heartily at his problem; it must be quite a shock to him after the months with Liggett on Top. One of the advantages of being a 2nd Lt. - no ego to get inflated and then deflated.

Glad I have at last heard that you are getting my mail; pretty soon you'll get the 708 notification. At first I told you to use 708, then switched back to 7769, and then after I got here and got 708 confirmed, I sent you the complete address. Were all set now.

I think your analysis of leadership in Portland is very sound, Mother. All the politics are very fascinating. I just hope that you don't over exert yourselves - take it easy over the summer.



As for the idea of my getting training before assignment - that is obviously out - and I didn't need it for this job; work in a spot like this is the best training. No card games here. I was sorry to hear of your continued losings, Daddy. I see that you have not learned the fundamental lesson of all Poker. It is not enough to hold cards - three card draws, as you well know, can sometimes beat you when you are pat with a pup straight. The whole secret - it is really so simple - is to hold winning cards. Master this and you are all set. Of course, I have quite got the hang of it myself yet.

Well, that is it for this morning.

Love and kisses,

Sammy

is my mail being censored? Is anything being cut out?