



UNITED STATES ARMY

Saturday Night

Dear Family,

I've been busy tonight but even at that I haven't accomplished everything I'd like to. We went out yesterday at about noon on the problem that I said might be called off and got back from it this morning sometime around 10:00. I believe. We didn't get much sleep but we didn't have to do any extensive hiking and it wasn't too hard on us.

The rest of the day has been spent being details around the company, cleaning up our equipment, and trying to get a little rest between times. I have had fatigue clothes, socks, etc to wash from two problems this week so I've done quite a bit of laundry altogether.

Carbon scribbles.

I have spent most of my evening getting my stuff ready for an inspection tomorrow morning. This is the inspection of all our equipment that was supposed to come off today if we hadn't gone on the problem. It is the first of our inspections to get us ready for some movement. I can't feature this outfit going over as a unit instead of as replacements as they have been doing but that's what they are talking now.

We've got to get up at the regular time tomorrow and it will be a regular work day till the inspection is over. But by the time everyone is inspected I expect most of the day will be gone.

I'll close now and just hope for some time to finish tomorrow. D.J.



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Sunday Evening

This hasn't been much like Sunday and consequently I won't be able to write quite such a long letter as usual. We got up at 6:00 and cleaned up the barracks as we do on any working day. Then we spent all morning waiting with all our equipment and clothes displayed out in the sun. By the time they got around to inspecting us it was just about noon.

So consequently I didn't get to go to church this morning. Then this afternoon although I wasn't very much in the mood for going to the movies there was a show on I didn't want to miss so I went. It was Pearl S. Buck's "Dragon Seed" about which I had studied in literature classes. It was a modern Chinese story about the war and it turned out to be a very good movie.

after I got back I intended to write but I fell asleep instead and almost missed supper by not waking up. I have managed to do a little reading in between times but outside of that this has been almost a wasted day.

I was very glad to get your letter today but the package hasn't arrived yet. I don't know what we'll be doing tomorrow but I haven't heard any rumors so I expect we'll be here tomorrow noon. A box will come in just as enjoyable then as it would have today.

From the looks of things now we will be pulling out but it won't be for a few weeks yet. Anything is guess though and we'll just wait to see what develops. I have several things I'll have to send home and I think I'll fix a box in the near future. I have several pairs of cotton socks that I don't use now since we have to wear heavy socks to work in.



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I also have a pair of wool pants that I got while in the supply room at Benning. I was going to use them to wear under my fatigues if we went on winter maneuvers but it looks as if I won't need them for that. They might come in handy for some similar use around home. If I get started I may find a good bit to send and what I don't send now will have to be got rid of before we move as we can take only issue clothing and equipment. You are allowed 5 lbs of excess equipment though and I think I'll keep my civilian shoes. I get a great kick out of wearing them.

A little incident happened last Monday that shows how much like kids even a bunch of soldiers can be. We were out on a problem and we

were attacked by a bunch of tanks.
after the "battle" the tanks stopped
and several of the fellows were climb-
ing around over them getting a good look
inside. They talked one of the drivers
into taking them a ride and they were
hanging all over the thing. Well
I was in that bunch and I rode
astraddle of the cannon. We got as
big a thrill out of that as if we had
done something big.

Well I hope everything is going
OK with you.

Love
Donald.

Mr. Donald Jappan 35893186

Co K 346 Inf. APO 448

Ft. Jackson, S. C.

Free

Willis Jappan

Orestes, Indiana

Box 96