



UNITED STATES ARMY  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

October 19, 1943

Dear Grandparents,

Well my basic training now has a good start. So far I have been busy all of the time but I haven't had to work too hard.

We haven't spent all of our time drilling as you might expect. A good bit of the time we have spent in learning by the classroom <sup>only out of doors</sup> method.

For instance we spent all but an hour this afternoon listening to lectures and watching demonstrations on battle tactics.

We have been learning to handle our rifles but haven't shot them yet. We have also learned to use our other equipment such as to pitch our tents, use our gas masks

etc. Tomorrow we are going to practice using our gas masks in a gas chamber. This chamber will contain real gas but it is a kind that won't hurt us. By wearing them in harmless gas we will be used to them if we ever have to use them in poisonous gas.

We have taken two or three short marches but they haven't hardly been long enough to call marches. They are just building us up gradually to the time when we will march for long distances.

The army does one thing that I like very much. Of course it wouldn't be practical in battle but it helps us out in our training. This is that we work 50 minutes and rest 10 out of every hour. This makes it possible for us to accomplish as much in 50 minutes as we would otherwise in 60 and still not



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be as tired when the day is over.

Do you remember when Red Trice first entered the army and was complaining about not getting paid for the time he spent at Ft. Harrison. Well I want to clear up that question. You don't get paid while you are there but you get paid for the time you spent there when you get to your next camp.

I hope that everything is coming along alright in Crested. I suppose that you will take advantage of the vacation at the end of this week to catch up on the school house work.

Well it is almost bed time.

Your grandson  
Donald.

NAME & RANK Pvt Donald Jagan 35893/81

ORGANIZATION 16th Co 6th Inf

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FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

Mr. + Mrs. Alfred Carver  
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