

Jan 2, 1944

Dear Folks,

Your letters sort of came at me all at once so I had to read them all over before I started this one so that I might be able to answer your questions.

I will start by saying that I got your package and letter with money in it on Friday. Everything in the package arrived in fine shape. I don't know any of the qualifications of the watch but it seems to be alright to me. It is very nice looking and it runs fine. I am sure proud of it and very glad to get it.

I don't know how you happened to run on to the nail clippers but I certainly never expected to get anything that will serve my purpose as well as they will. Even the Bible is a lot better than I ever expected to get. When I mentioned

a small Bible I was afraid to mention one with a zipper on it for fear that they would be impossible to get. But this one is a very nice size and even has the zipper.

The candy sure didn't go begging this time. I'll bet I had more Christmas than anybody back there!

A funny thing happened about that money you sent me. I opened the letter that contained it at exactly the same time that the other fellows were getting paid. You guys sure do things right; you wouldn't have needed to send so much. Richard sure needn't send me any money for the shoes now.

I surely do want you to take the rest of the money for my watch out of my graduation money. I hadn't entirely forgotten about this money but I just didn't think about it when I was talking about buying a watch.

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I also want you to take the ten dollars you sent me out of this money. The rest of it (except the 2 dollar bills which I want you to hang on to) I would like for you to save to put in with money that I will send sometime in the future to be put in on bonds. Does this straighten me out financially.

New for a little news. I have been working in the supply room with about an hour or 2 every day in the kitchen just to make it interesting. Ha, Ha, yesterday I spent all morning hauling coal. We were off yesterday afternoon and I read quite a bit in my Reader's Digest. This morning I went to church as usual.

After I got back from church I tried to do a little sewing. As I was doing it I was thinking about how

easy it would have been to ask Mother to do it if I had been at home. She would have done it quickly and there would be no doubt about its staying fixed. But I struggle along with it and just hope that it stays. I'm learning though.

This afternoon I went over to see the fellows of my old company before they leave. Of course, the main thought on their minds was where they were going to be sent.

Well I feel a lot brighter than I did last week at this time. I hope you can get things straightened out alright back there.

Oh yes I was glad to get Janette's picture but you will have to keep it for me.

Love
Donald.

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RANK

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