



UNITED STATES ARMY

Sun. June 11, 1944

Hello Folks,

Well today might be a whole lot worse but it isn't exactly a day of rest. The reason is that I am on guard. We went on at 5 o'clock yesterday evening and get off about that time this evening. I walked from 8 till 10 and from 2 till 4. That would make me walk from 8 till 10 this morning and from 2 till 4 this afternoon. But since there are twice as many posts at night as there are in the day-time there are twice as many men as they need in the daytime so they give one post to 2 men and let each man walk one of the shifts.

I got the afternoon shift and so since this is Sunday they gave those of us, who don't walk till this PM, the morning off. I won't get much

resting done because we have to go back
at 11:30 but at least I'll get my
Sunday letter written and get to
go to church. I appreciate this because
I was afraid that I wasn't going to
get to.

My night consisted of only from
10 till 2 and from 4 till 6:30 but I
think I'll clean up and hit the hay
as soon as I get in tonight so maybe
I can make up for it.

The company gets up at 2 AM
tomorrow morning to start on a
two-day problem. My name is on
the detail list for some kind of
detail tomorrow but I don't fold
out till 7:30. I may be stuck
for two days but at least I won't
have such a short night tonight.
There is always a bright side to
everything I guess.

There was a general around in-
specting yesterday and he wanted



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to see us working so we didn't have our regular Saturday inspection. I went over to radio school as usual. We studied radio yesterday for the first time in two or three days.

Friday afternoon we had quite a strenuous but interesting job at communication school. They wanted to give us practice in using a compass so they set up a compass course for us to run. And what a course it was! We each started out alone and were supposed to follow certain ^(magnetic lines) azimuths ~~to follow~~ for so many yards. We had no way to tell distance except by our paces.

We followed one azimuth for 2200 yds, another for 2000 yds and a third for 1200 yds and were supposed to end up where we started from. It was all up and down hill and through

thick woods. If you can see a hundred or so yds in front of you and walk toward a certain object this is a fairly easy task but through woods you have to look at the compass about every 25 or thirty yds and this makes it very easy to get off your course. Then through brush etc. you really have to concentrate to keep track of your paces.

I got back at just about the exact point I was supposed to and by the map we had to keep I had reached the points we were supposed to so I got through the course all right. Some of them even got lost on the course. And come to think of it this wouldn't have been so hard to do. It would have been pretty easy to get 2 or 3 degrees off your course when going up and down hill for a mile and a half in one direction. That much off can make a lot of difference when going that far.



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I was sure glad for the letters I got from you this week. That surely must have been a horrible train accident. I have been out in there but I just don't remember having seen the crossing. Is it just west of that power station on the Riverview road?

How was the circus? What color and kind is old Corie? How is she coming by now?

As you can see by the things I sent home you can see how strict they are getting about having extra things. In connection with this I have a request I want to make. When you send me packages I would like for you to send them so that they will get here between Saturday evening and about Wednesday evening. If you could do this it will give me time to have it taken

care of before Saturday inspection. Of course, Sunday is always the best day to get packages.

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Well I'll sign off now and put on my tie for church. I'll write some more tonight if I have any more news.

Love

Donald

Evening

Well I have a little to tell you. I got your ^{and letter} package today; you timed it just right. Thanks for everything. Please send another cigar box like that some of these times. That is sure good candy. I suppose its home made?

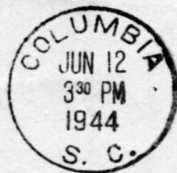
I have a request for the next package. I'd like for you to send me a pair of swimming trunks. Any kind. I suppose 30" waist will work. On Saturday afternoons we sometimes are allowed to go swimming for our exercise if we have trunks. Maybe I could learn to swim this summer. The simpler the better on these.

AFTER FIVE DAYS, RETURN TO

Pvt. Donald Tappan 35-893186

Co K 346 Inf APO 448

Ft Jackson, S.C.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mrs. Willis Tappan
Crestes, Indiana
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