

Christmas 8:15 PM

Hello Everybody,

I promised you that I'd write on Christmas and now I'm almost too "fizzled" out to do it. I worked hard all day long today so it couldn't seem too much like Christmas. I still feel that Sunday was my Christmas.

Of course, we did have a very nice dinner today. Turkey and all the trimming - even down to fruit salad, ice cream, mince pie, oranges, apples and candy. And then going out of the mess hall, Santa Claus (in the form of a Red Cross girl) gave us a nice little box. They varied in contents but in general they contained candy and small books, and then perhaps a pencil

and some writing paper or any such small article to fill up the box. It was sort of like getting a treat at Sunday School.

I suppose you went to Grandma Carver's today. Did Ben get there? How about either of Aunt Myrtle's boys? Maybe you heard from them at least.

I hardly even thanked you for my Christmas box in the last letter but I did appreciate it a lot. Because of the way personal property had been disappearing, I didn't dare leave it unopened for fear my watch might be in it. So I had my thrill of opening packages last Friday. Thanks for everything. The shirt didn't necessarily have to come but it's alright. I hope all you folks did as well by Christmas as I did.

I wonder if you had a very white Christmas. It was white here when I got up this morning but not much that way now. It started melting this morning and by noon you could begin to see the ground coming through where the snow was thin. Then just before dark this evening it started to rain and that spoiled everything. Now all we have are mud puddles and slush. You know - one of those real messy thaws. I wouldn't be surprised to see everything turned into ice in the morning though.

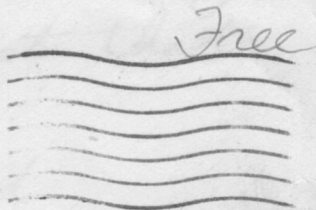
What's on the schedule to be done during the rest of vacation week? I haven't heard from you since Saturday so tomorrow I'm

sort of expecting a letter. Before
long now the mail service should
be back to normal, I hope.

Well I've about run down
for this time so I might as
well sign off. I'll be seeing
you one of these days. Every
day now brings me just that
much closer. Be good.

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