St. Petersburg, Fla.

Thursday afternoon
2:15 p.m.
3-4-43

Dear Folks:-

I didn't get any mail from you guys or Ruth this noon but I did get a letter from Jim & Mrs. Lane. Jim went & visited us guys this Sunday but I don't know as I get how we'd gonna manage it. Hope we can tho.

I suppose you wonder why I'm writing this afternoon - well I forgot my drill & a belly ache & am going on sick call at 4:00 today. It doesn't hurt as long as I am lying down or sitting down but as soon as I get up & walk it hurts like the very devil. I was out on the drill field this morning & could hardly stand it so I'll let it change when we come in this noon but I won't go out this afternoon.

He said he didn't know what I'd do about it + I told him I didn't care what he did because I knew I'd never make it out there. He came by later + said it was ok. I have to get up at 3:30 tho' + I'll be another shot — hope I can take it. I don't think this place could get me down but I guess it finally has. I think what is wrong is the way I've been eating. I ate at the — hall last night + this a.m. is St. Pete that night + didn't eat a meal again until last night. I've been eating out of your box + had 2 cheese sandwiches from the P.X. which weren't any too good. I have a slight fever but nothing to worry about. I am kinda weak tho' + have been eating oranges this morn — about 3 of them. Now don't worry! It's not

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serious or I wouldn't have told you about it. Maybe I shouldn't have told you at it is. But don't worry. I'll keep you informed. I'll probably be okay by tomorrow morning if they give me anything. Probably be castor oil! Ugh! Ugh!

I don't know my pants - shirt-tail get. I think I'll have one of the fellas get one for me tonight.

Gosh, I sure wish I could get a paper tabbing myself, don't I? How are all of you? How is Rudy coming? What about Dutchman reading to the helping old Adolf!! Dale, how is your jeep running? Does it eat much gas? If it hadn't killed or you'll be walking about Dog time - or do you have a "B" Card?

Boy, Gordon + I sure hope you can find a base. It makes two months worth it think of it. Don't worry about it spoiling — it won't last that long. All of us guys get hope — for other new so many others in my life!!

I suppose you wonder why I have not got this stationery so early — well — it's a sheer impossibility. It keeps away thing clean around here.

You should see this camp now! When we came in about 2 weeks ago there were only about 200 or 800 men here — now there's close to 30,000 + enough empty tents for 2 times that many. They say it's going to be the largest tank training camp in the country. We were sure lucky we came in when we did. We are located only about 300 yds. from the road into Ft. Polk + the guys who are coming in now are about 2 mi from it. Not only that but all the guys coming

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Air now will have 2 nice basic training! My God!

Tom English, Kenny Lahey, + Marion Bates are but like at Just city now but I haven't yet seen any of them - they only got out here yesterday. I also hear that Danny Mangan is in St. Pete.

Well Son getting tired but have to write Aunt + Mrs. Seems yet so I'll close - maybe if I feel better I'll write tonight.

Be good + careful + Don't Worry!!

For
your
+ many brothers
Dad.

P.S. It was so cold down here this morning that we wore two pair long underwear + an overcoat - it's warming up now tho' - "Perry"