

ARMY  
TECHNICAL  
SCHOOL

A · A · F · T · T · C ·

— SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK. —

Fri. Noon

Dear Folks:

12:00

9-10-43

This may be the last you'll  
hear from me for a week  
'cause I'm out at C.T.U. &  
don't have much time.

We get up about 5:30 am  
& go to work chopping wood,  
digging repair latrines, etc.  
for 8 hrs. & then go to school  
in three lectures & fights  
they have here for another  
3 hrs., & write our letters  
during our 8 hr. sleeping time.  
And I think that after the  
16 hrs. they have planned  
for us daily but here that



I'll need all the sleep I can possibly get.

This "Coast Training Unit" has been set up to acquaint us with the living conditions we may very probably meet overseas. Most of the ~~guys~~ are pup dogs & a few big ones. Duke, Zondrick, Rosetti, Buckle, Welch, & other guys whose name I don't know, & I am all in one big lot.

It's more or less like Fort City in Florida. Fort is much smaller. I've pretty much made of how it'll be when most of the



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gays spend their time  
travelling in motor or nice  
sanacks.

We have no coats here  
& sleep on the ground with  
a wool blanket & a com-  
forter. Eat out of mess  
pits but have <sup>lights</sup> &  
stand up to eat & don't  
have to sit on the ground. A  
hell of a lot of quicker around  
here. Not paid for you, Dale!  
the ~~the~~. We are forced to  
fly every day while we're here.

We have to wear our  
gas masks & hoods all  
the time because they drop



"Flour Bombs" & real  
tear gas. He's one of the  
few guys here who really  
knows what tear gas is  
& will be sure to have  
his gas smack all the time!!

The whole place is well  
camouflaged <sup>(sp)</sup> & cannot be  
detected in photographs  
taken at 5,000 feet. It's  
all quite an experience.

By the way, it's still  
colder here!! Don't  
worry, mom. I've got  
plenty of clothes & that of  
you & how pleased you'd be  
to see how many clothes  
I brought along to be sure  
I'd be warm!!

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I got two swell letters +  
that is come tax affairs, + a  
nice big letter from Ruth  
yesterday + this morning  
I got another from you  
that was written Tuesday.

Ruth mentioned in her  
letter that you had told  
her that I hadn't much writed  
she quit ~~of~~ writing, soon.  
I wish you hadn't told her,  
Mother. She didn't know  
about my thinking the letter but  
was kinda pained about my  
not telling her. It's gonna  
be damn hard to explain!  
It's ok tho! She had to



know it sooner or later.

5:45 p.m.

I had to go to school  
right in the middle of this &  
when I got over there I found  
out I was on maintenance  
& was a carpenter, mechanic,  
& an electrician all after-  
noon. We leave for school  
at 6:00 & then have P.T.  
from 7 to 8 tonight.

This is all I have time for  
now but will try to write more  
tomorrow. Will then -

Love  
John