

Wed. Morn.

10:45

12-15-43

Dear Folks:

I'm skipping chaw so
I can write this because
I haven't had a chance to
write since Mon. night &
don't know when I'll have
a chance to write again.

Maybe tonight & maybe not
for a few days. However
busy I am, tho, I'll write
as often as possible. I'm
going to phone ~~soon~~ too.

My foot locker came in
yesterday, I got it an
hour ago, & start processing
again this afternoon.

Be sure to send those
special orders right
away. to! Thanks.

~~I was supposed to sign~~
a payroll this afternoon
& be paid tomorrow but
as I won't be here, it's
hard telling when I'll get
any dough.

Haven't gotten any mail
we get & probably won't un-
til I get settled at Keams
~~but keep on mailing often~~
& I'll get 'em all at once.
Just found out that I have
to have those special orders
before I can get that \$54
travel money!

I'm getting used to being
back to the grind but I will
never be satisfied until I'm
home for good! They tell
us here that there's no chance
of getting home again till
this damn war's over! So
don't build any hopes on
seeing me for a long time!
I haven't given up hope
& will keep right on trying
but I'm not planning on
it.

The main thing I dislike
about this place is that they
are forever pushing you around
& you all know I never
did let any one ~~do~~ do that to
me. I realize that I have

to do as Jim told & that
someone has to give the
order in order to get any-
thing done & don't mind
doing as Jim told but
this damned place is dif-
ferent! They just push
& shove & bump all over
you but if I want to
keep my stripes, I'll just
stand & keep my mouth
shut & take it. But I still
don't care & like it!!!

Here's one consolation for
you: I was talking to a guy
yesterday who is a gunner
& has been thru P.T.U. &
R.T.U. (Replacement Training

Don) & ~~him~~ was assigned
to a squadron & all & then
applied for Cocks, went there
& pushed ~~it~~ ~~for~~ ~~me~~
here for re-assignment &
he says it'll be 6 or 8
months before I get over
seas but that I won't
get a furlough before going
over. He says that they
push you around from
now on until you get
consensus & then you'd
have to take anything from
~~the~~ Congress. In other
words, I have another 6 or 8
months of pushing around
before I'm anywhere near

-4-
"free" again. I hope this
demand thing is over quick!
I don't mind going on
+ doing my share of work
but I won't ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~with~~ ^{with}
send me out - or - send
me home - now!

As I said before, I'm
getting on my hands and
knees like by little but,
I still mind you like best!
Just as I have experience
that ~~firmly~~ ^{firmly} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~with~~ ^{with}

I know I have the
smell of mother, Dad, Brother,
& girl of anyone in the
world & I'll never be

-7-
satisfied until I'm back
in that wonderful home
with you all!!!

~~I understand that when~~
you is nervous, disappointed,
& discouraged, that if he
has faith in God & prays
he will feel better. I did
that last night & it has
done wonders already. I
didn't ask him to get me
out of here quick or make
things easier for me - I just
told him how I felt & that
I could take it if this just
stay with me. I'll make
it ok! Don't worry about

-8-

that but I'll never be able
to sit still or be myself
till I'm home again &
for good.

Yesterday I was made-
tail in a Permanent Party
Squadron cleaning barracks
for P'ts, P't's, & Capt. Bry
did that even make me
sore! Whew! But I kept
my mouth shut & am sure
I'll live thru it ok.

I also stood Retreat
last night for the first
time since I've been in the
army. It's really something!!

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I know how you feel
when you talk about it. Dad!
I still think it's a shame.

This: that gives ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~chance~~ ^{chance} I don't
mean get the chance I don't
Retreat any more than we
do.

I want to write Ruth just
+ hope a few cards before
noon so till next time
I have time —

I hope all more
that I can ever say
in words
Yours
John

over

-10-

P.S. If anyone wants to
send me a word (O.D.)
about it's about ok by

me because it's within
an ice long way! You don't
notice it when it's 30' or
35' above but from then
on down, hurrrr!! shatters
a million —

"Bert"