

Mon.

Dear,

Gives I'll start this thing now before details begin + finish later if need be. It started out to be a miserable day today. I really felt great this morning but there was a drizzle + cold world waiting outside. But, by noon the weather broke and it sunned up + got into the 50's this afternoon - a beautiful spring-like day.

The day was 8 hrs. of classes + pretty boring. We're learning to fire machine guns + will actually fire them tomorrow. The the best of the week we fire small rocket launchers + mortar fire. I should have KP about wed or Thurs.

Luckily, it's the only time I'll have it all cycl.

I am in 4 PC Whites sleeping section, but we've started a "detail section" system. There are 4 of these one for day-room cleanups (1st plas. responsibility) one for up + one for down stairs

clean-up, and one detail  
section which does all our  
extra plat. details - like <sup>spit</sup>  
cleaning of offices, guns, etc.  
when we're called on to  
furnish men. In up the  
upstairs section under 1st  
Sgt Hornum (Horny for  
short). The work section  
leaders will recommend us  
for passes & I talked to  
Horny last night & he said  
he'd do all possible to get  
me a leave in 2 weekends.  
He said overnite "long"  
passes aren't certain, but if  
I explained you were coming,  
the cadre would probably  
be kind - they've bent over  
backwards for guys who  
brought ~~wives~~ wives back.  
So - it's fairly certain we  
can plan for them.

One thought kept creeping  
into my dull brain today  
I'm getting closer & closer  
to Nam every day. Strange

that when I first got back here I feared time would drag by + new tin not so sure I want it to pass so quickly. At least here I can call you + hope to see you soon. But it will be over sooner than I'd like to think. Did realize, however, that I'll be able to see Don + Mel before I leave + when I come back (if they're still in California as they've got + planned).

Got your Sat. nite letter. Really enjoyed it. You get the same damned mixed feelings of pain + happiness I do.

Just got thru dusting the top floor. Back to thoughts of the Day. Hey, Tricky Dick is now Pres. Maybe the 1940's look will come back in clothes since our first lady hasn't changed her ~~her~~ looks or dress since then. Well, it's a change. All I want is out of Nam.

In a fairly good mood. We  
came out 2nd in inspection  
today & that's a relatively  
safe bet - not so bad to  
be whipped & not so good we  
have to kill ourselves to  
keep up. So, we'll have a little  
spare time tonight.

Funniest thing happened  
this weekend. Found out  
I could write & call & talk  
to you forever. I just wasn't  
satisfied last night, after  
getting arranged for today  
& wanted to write some  
more - to you. But I wrote  
to Ken instead. Maybe I'll  
hear from them soon (M & R).  
Like a variety of mail altho  
nothing compares to yours.  
Wish I'd been there Sat. night.  
You sounded in a damn  
cuddly mood & like that.  
I was just in a good-joking-  
type mood. But Sun. I wanted  
you so bad it really did hurt.  
That's why I may have sounded  
less bouncy on the phone.

It's awful, I know dear, but  
I was horny (mmmm!).  
Anyway, it's strange. It's not  
all 'deers there' type leather.  
My arms, my chest, my  
cheeks miss you too. Oh, ya,  
and my feet, too, or better  
yet my thies miss warming  
your feet. And my back misses  
your rubs + your hugs.  
What a nut.

I'll be with you this week,  
And I'll be relaxed + hazy  
with you when it's past,  
Knowing it's over is going to help  
me. Been pulling for you + sort  
of tense waiting for the end +  
your pains that were to be  
expected. Maybe it will be  
easier now at least + you  
won't have troubles hitting  
you from all sides at once,  
altho the loneliness will still  
be there.

You know, in some ways  
I'm happier now than I've  
ever been. And I think about

how much we're going to  
have when I get out. I almost  
have to pinch myself to  
believe how much we under-  
stand each other & work  
together. Also, our strength  
has really surprised me. Oh,  
it's been rough & you've told  
me of your pains & I've told  
you mine. But I confess I  
had occasional glimpses of  
real ~~psychological~~ psychological  
problems with you & me. I've  
never feared our ruining "us",  
but I really did worry about  
too ~~ex~~ extreme a depression  
state setting in. But we've  
proven to be very strong &  
"us" is stronger than ever.

You make me a very  
happy man, dear. I think  
we'll be damned good parents  
& you'll be one of the best  
Moms I know. Of course, I  
may be a bit prejudiced. I  
love my little wet noodle  
that has more life in her  
than she admits to herself  
sometimes. I need you. Love, ~~John~~