

December Seven
Fort Wood, Mo.

Dear Uncle John,

I am acting CQ for a while this evening so it will be a good time for me to finish off some letter writing. It shouldn't take too long sitting here behind a desk for a change.

You probably know by now that I was unable to ship out as my original orders stated. How long I will be here I don't know for sure.

I qualified expert with M14 and M16 and only dropped 3 points on the proficiency test but I was a little slow and just got 285 points on the PT test. You had to have 300 to pass so I flunked flat on my ass. They wouldn't let me beltline so I am now a holdover.

There are about 20 holdovers left in the barracks. The first sergeant said that our training was over so now that we're not trainees anymore

we have the run of the post. All we have to do is be here in the mornings for roster check or else be AWOL. Today I went to the show and slept most of the afternoon. Pretty soon I probably go to the PX or somewhere to get some supper. I don't know what's up for tomorrow.

As far as I can tell those of us who failed the PT test will go to special training sometime. We will have to take the test everyday until I pass. I won't know exactly what it will be until I get there.

I still don't have any definite word as far as a Christmas leave is concerned. All trainees get leaves but since I'm not a trainee I don't know what I'll get - probably screwed. It don't make much difference though because it will all be evened out in the end, I'll see to that.

The weather here has been real nice for the last couple of weeks. It did snow a little last night but it was in the thirties today. It should start getting cooler here any time now. But there are very few spots where it doesn't get cold in the winter.

I don't know of anything else to write. I will probably be home or have a new address before you will write again but I will call home when I know something for sure. So until then I guess all is

the same. My time and Army time still goes by day by day.

That's all for now. Have a care and will see you soon I hope.

As always,

Gary

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