

March Eleven
Fort Knox, Kentucky

Dear John,

I have a little spare time this evening so I guess I had better get a letter written to you. I had planned to write last night but I had to take charge of a detail to clean up brigade HQ. The guy who was supposed to do it cut out so I had to fill in.

It seems like we get a hell of a lot of details. One reason is that there is only 97 in the company and there is supposed to be 140. Also, the battalion only has three companies filled instead of five. That leaves a lot of work to be done by a few

people. I can usually get out of them since I am a squad leader but I take them sometimes just to have something to do. I don't get Kreyher but I had plenty of that when

I was at Wood. I figured it out and I had KP ten percent of the time I was there. That is a hell of a lot compared to what most people get. I had to do a lot of extra KP when I was here for so long.



Today we were at the pistol range all day qualifying with the calibre .45 pistol. I pushed the pencil a little and got 310 points. You needed 300 for marksman, 330 for sharpshooter, and 350 for expert. Only 25% usually qualify, I don't know what our company average is though. We also got to shoot a magazine of ammo with the calibre .45 sub-machine gun for "familiarization".

So far we have taken our drivers test with the tank and the ~~land~~ navigation test (map reading). I did OK on both. We have regular classes in gas and mine warfare, communications, first aid, drill and ceremonies and maintenance. We still have to learn to aim and fire the 90mm main gun and the .30 and .50 calibre machine guns. We go on a five day bivouac Easter Sunday.

The mess hall here isn't too bad but it is the worst I've seen so far. The food is OK but it takes a long time to get served. They only serve from one line when they should use both and quite often they run out on the line and have to cook more or use a substitute. They must have a piss poor mess steward. He would have never made it at Ft. Wood anyway.

Well, I had better cut this off and find a place to hide real quick - they are looking for bodies for a detail and I don't want to get caught again. as always,
Gary

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