



CAMP CROFT
SOUTH CAROLINA

Good Friday, April 23
3:45 P.M.

Dear Mom,

Your letter arrived with the noon mail; I rec'd one from Fel at the same time. And, man, I was damn good to get 2 letters. I ~~haven't~~ ^{hadn't} had any mail in 3 days, and I was going nuts for news. Even a circular or a bill would have looked good. Monday, I think it was, I got a letter from Collon. As usual, it was damn good, so I'm enclosing it. Send it along to Dot when you're finished with it.

You write that the Hill girls are "sending you 3 cigarettes." I know what you mean, but don't you think the way you wrote it makes humorous reading? Three cigarettes!! Which 3 days would I smoke them on?? Any suggestions???

(A letter just arrived from Peg in the night mail).

[Correction: it's an Easter Card from Collon.]

There's nothing new here at all, mom. It rained all day today so we had our usual Sat. inspection today. (indoors). At noon time we went over to the theatre for Catholic services (stations of the cross - 7 words - & the "Passion" from the Gospels).

Don't think that we're having balmy weather here. This week, every day was cold & windy. On Monday

I went thru the combat course here - one of the best things I've seen in the army. Each man is given 16 rounds of ammunition and a Garand rifle. The course runs thru a thick woods, & one man at a time goes thru, unexpectedly, from behind trees & stumps, & up from ^{from behind} nets & fences, silhouettes of the enemy pop up now & then. There's no "time for shooting from the shoulder". You just hold the rifle on your hip & let go! WHAM! The battalion colonel followed me thru to see what the course is like, since it's new. I shot hell out of the first target before he even saw it. He said "You may be a southpaw but you're ~~sure~~ sure fast on the trigger!!" It was really a thrilling experience. Some fellows said they'd give 5 dollars to be allowed to go thru again. And they're not kidding, either. It was some lesson in what war is like!!

Yes, man, that's Joe Sherman's ~~letter~~ brother who's being ordained. And speaking of Sherman reminds me that I still owe him two dollars for those pictures we had taken in the "Beland" restaurant.

Still no ~~no~~ news from Dot. But I was glad to see the letter of hers you sent. Looks like the kid is getting a great kick out of the Army & should get placed in it. Here's hoping she does.

Well, that finishes the news I guess, except that Fil says she passed out while donating blood, gave ~~out~~ only 350 instead of 500 c.c.'s, and had to stay home from work for 2 days. These women! What's that old saying? - "The bigger they are the harder they fall!!" I'll tell me if you show this to her!!

Love, as ever & Happy
Caster
Frank.

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Free.

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