

July, 5. 1943

Dear Mom and Dad:

I finally found out when I'm leaving this place. I get my shipping orders this Friday, Leave Saturday and reach my destination Sunday or Monday. I don't know for sure where they will send me but I have a hunch that it will be Camp Barkeley, Texas. This is the same place they sent Johnny Streck. Of course I do not know for sure, it could be any of a number of places.

I went to Hutchinson again Saturday. Al Kendree a boy who lives in Hutch wanted me to hitchhike home with him so I did. We started at 8:30 Saturday night and got there 5:45 Sunday morning. We were there two hours ahead of the train that we would of had to take. I came back as far as Lawrence on the train last night, and hitchhiked the rest of the way to Fort Leavenworth. Had a lot of fun in Hutch although I knew that I probably should have gone to Russell. I wanted to go home to see the new furniture, I'll bet the house really looks swell now. Has Dad bargained for the car he was talking about yet. All my clothes are dirty, which means that I will have to do my washing tomorrow. I can't seem to get my clothes as white as you always did. I guess it takes time to learn how to wash them. I told Grace that when I was stationed some permanent place that I was going to send them home to you one week and to ~~har~~ the next week. If I am stationed to far away I'll have to do them myself.

If I am correct, the boys from Russell will be here Wednesday I'm wondering if Kenny is going to be able to come with them. It would probably be better for him if he was with a group of boys that he knew. Dad might ask the draft board if it could possibly be arranged. I'm not sure whether they would have anything to say about it thought

Has Norma Jean written anything concerning how she likes New Mexico. I haven't their address so I can't write to them. You might send me Larry and Gloria's address so that I can write them when I have time. I was also wondering if I had gotten any more mail. If I have any send it immediately or wait until I am stationed some place.

I hope my ring gets here soon I'm anxious to wear it. I am going to write Mr. Rooney as soon as I get it and thank him for the trouble he went to ~~by~~ in finding the one I wanted.

I'm still working from 5 till 12 and since there isn't anything to do I'm going to spend the night writing letters. I have about 5 to write so it should keep me pretty busy along with what little work I have to do. Tell "Chet Dawson" hello for me. How does he look after boot training. I'll bet he makes a better marine than Bub does. Does he know wher he's going after his furlough is over.

Well there isn't much more that I can write about for nothing ever happens around here worth writing home about. If something does happen that I don't get shipped out next weekend I'll try to come home if I can get a week-end pass. Grace said that she might be able to come to Russell Saturday afternoon and stay over Sunday if I am still here.

Goodbye ,

Love

Bob
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There was one other thing that I was wondering about. When I do get paid, I wonder if I should try to pay part of my bills or put the money in the bank. I know my bills should come first, but I do want to start saving my money. The first money I get paid really belongs to "Dad" and you. I'll send it home and you keep what I've borrowed the last month and either pay some on my bills or put the rest in the bank. I imagine my bank note should be paid first so that I would not have to pay the interest on it so long. This may be a little early to start thinking about saving anything because payday is a month and possibly two months away.