

Camp Ward  
November 12, 1942

Dear Daddy,

Tuesday I went to Couer D'Alene [sic], Idaho. We were suppose [sic] to get ten hours liberty but we didn't leave Camp until about two hours after we were scheduled to because the bus was late. I had a good time. I went to a show and to the U.S.O.

It has been snowing up here but hasn't in the last three days. The first of last week we had about a four and a half or a five inch snow which is not all melted.

Sunday I learned some jui jitsue [sic] which will be very helpful if I ever have to come in contact [page 2] hand and hand to the japs. After that I went swimming and had a lot of fun. We had a relay race. The side that I was on won third place.

This afternoon we went down to Bayview. This is were [sic] there is a big bay in the lake and there is a town there. We had some instruction on rowing a boat. Our comanding [sic] officer said that it was a bad place to learn because the lake was so rough and the boats weren't so very good. If we learn the hard way when we do get some good boats it will really be easy.

It won't be so very long until I graduate out of boot camp and become a [page 3] seaman second class. I do not know whether I will get to go to school or not. At present there is no quotes to be filled. If I do go to school, I don't think that I will get a leave to come home on. Unless I could make arrangements to get more than nine days I could hardly come home anyway unless I took an airplane.

We are sure learning how to march. We are even getting to where our comanding [sic] officer likes to show us off. Have you ever heard a comand [sic] like this "by the right flank, left flank, double to the rear and halt" or one like "by the right flank, left flank, tripple [sic] to the rear." These are the kind of marching procedures we are learning now.

How is Julia? Do you like driving the big fire truck?

Your son,  
Tom D