

Camp Ward
October 21, 1942

Dear Mother,

I received the letter that you wrote Sunday today. How many times will we be allowed to keep. [sic] Isn't Jackie working in Marfa anymore?

There are two dogs that run around the camp here. This morning when we were taking our exercise there was a goat out on the drill field.

Yes, I feel alright now since my shots. My training period started yesterday. We rolled our clothes and then drilled for a little while.

Last night I went to a picture show it was Playmates. I had seen about the army camp in Blanca before. This morning after chow we had inspection. Then we had a lecture on salutes and then drilled until about 11:30.

I have just finished getting my second haircut. Our haircuts cost us twenty cents apiece.

[page 2] I don't know whether I have told you or not but I got paid five dollars on the seventh. I think that I will get paid ten more today or tomorrow as I have already signed my pay check. They are holding most of our money back until we get a leave home after our training.

We are going to have an insurance lecture pretty soon. How much insurance do you think I should take out. [sic] It will cost about \$6.50 a month for ten thousand dollars.

As we have to wash all of our clothes I am not out a laundry bill. All that I have to buy is soap.

I received a letter from Julia and one from Mary Virginia yesterday. I go up to the recreation hall almost ~~every thing~~ every night. The library doesn't have any thing but magazines in it at present. We can go to the show three times a week if we are not on guard when it comes our night. They have fairly good shows.

[page 3] My three weeks will be up Saturday. They asked us this morning when we were mustard [sic] for chow which place we wanted to go Spokane or Coeur D. Lane [sic] I am going to Spokane. I will get some more post cards.

I think that I will try to get some pictures made of me in my uniform. We have to wear our undress leggings with our leggings. I don't know why we can't wear our dress blues. I suppose that they want us to save them. Mr. Midorf does not know just how long we will get but it will be about 9 or 12 hours.

Rifle practice will start pretty soon. The man that will be in charge of us there was in the battle of Solmon [sic] Islands. He was hit seven times. Out of the one hundred and four planes that came over in the first three days they shot down 94. He shot down ten himself.

Your Son,
Tom D