

Camp Ward
November 17, 1942

Dear Mother,

I received a letter from Julia yesterday and answered it this morning. I have just had my hair cut and have a little time while some of the other boys are getting theirs so I decided to use it in writing you.

The paper that you sent me came yesterday too. It is too bad that they aren't going to publish it any more since Mr. Wells is leaving.

Joe finally [sic] wrote to me and so did Mary Virginia. We haven't had any mail calls today.

Monday we went down to the boats and had another lesson. We also had a little race. The boat that I was steering won the race. The lake was not nearly as rough as it [page 2] was before.

Last night that had a boxing tournament at the drill hall. We had five fighters from our company. Three of them get to go to Camp Bennion for the big fight. Our first fighter was knocked out in the first round. And then two from our company had to fight each other. There were 24 fights in all. Will tell you how the other fights come out after Wednesday night.

It snowed last night and part of this morning. It is raining now.

This morning we had another test. I think that I made [sic] pretty good. The perfect score in the navy is 4.0. Passing is 2.5. The Battalion commander gave the test of 100 questions.

This afternoon we have some life saving instructions and then another [page 3] lecture on the five inch guns.

Tonight is our show night. It is "This Gun for Hire". I think that I have seen it but I am going if I don't get too many letters to answer in this afternoons [sic] mail call.

Tomorrow we have to start wearing our undress blues instead of our dungarees all the time. We will get our watch stripes sewed on sometime this week.

I saw my identification photograph and signed it this evening. It isn't very good.

We are suppose [sic] to graduate next week. I do not know if we will go back on work detail or not.

Sometime this week we have a transportation interview. I do not [page 4] know just what this is, but I guess that they want to find out where our home is and how far it is from the camp. I think

that when we do get a leave if we do we have to give them the money and they buy our tickets unless we already have a pass or a ticket.

Julia sure seems to like her job. Doesn't she? How is Betty. [sic] I guess that since Jackie has been to town I will be receiving a letter from him pretty soon.

I don't think that I have ever told you that both the Hudspeth County papers; the one you sent, and the one Mrs. Waren sent came did I. [sic] They both came on the same day.

Aunt Nettie said that she was going to send me some christmas [page 5] cards. I will be able to use them to a good advantage I imagin [sic].

How is Grampa? Have you seen him or Aunt Annie in the last few days? Has daddy been home lately. [sic]

We were suppose [sic] to have extended order this morning but we have a good commanding officer and he didn't make us go out in the snow and water. We will have it in the morning though and it will probably be worse then.

Goodby [sic] until next time.

Your son,
Tom D