

Camp Ward
November 11, 1942

Dear Mother,

I wrote you a quick letter this morning. In fact it was so quick that I didn't tell you hardly anything, so I am writting [sic] again tonight.

This morning I received a card and a letter from you. Miss Somerville wrote to me too.

Yes, your mail does pile up sometimes. One reason is that some you send by air mail and other straight, another thing is the time. Different times that you mail them and its different hours that I receive them.

No, I haven't taken my boat ride, but I [page 2] think that it may be coming up in the morning. If it is we will have to live all day on the provisions as we would have on a life raft if our ship sank. I think that it will be a lot of fun.

This afternoon we went out on the rifle range and had rifle practice. After rifle practice we drilled. We are sure learning to march. We are trying to be not an average company, but the best. Ask somebody if they have ever had a comand [sic] like this, "by the right flank, left flank, double to the rear march." [illegible deletion] or like this by its right flank, left flank, tripple [sic] to the rear and halt, march. These are sure from [page 3] some of the boys from the other companies saw us marching today and they said, "we will be here to christmas if we had to do that."

I almost ran into a boy that I new [sic] this morning while eating chow. He had lived in El paso for about nine years and been through Sierra Blanca quite a few times. He said that every time he went through there he saw a reck [sic] I don't know what his name was. His dad used to help take care of the orphants at Ysleta.

You said in one of your letters that Daddy was cooking beans. All the beans [page 4] that you get here are canned. They don't taste good to me.

Speaking of leaves, I took the G.C. Test this morning. It wasn't so very hard. I think that I made good enough on it to be able to go to some school. The bad news that the boys heard this morning was that they didn't have any more places in the trade schools and if they didn't get any pretty soon we would get to go. If I do get a leave to go home because of this I will try to get more than nine days. Have you ever found out any more about routes and fairs. [sic]

I think that I told you this morning that I went to Couer D' Alene [sic] yesterday. I will send you one of the [page 5] pictures that I had taken there in the morning. I am going to send Julia and Jean one too.

How is everybody? Have you seen Jackie lately? Aunt Annie told me that he was working out with he [sic] Dad.

Is Daddy still the mechanic and driving the truck too?

I haven't received the Hudspeth county news but I will in a few days I guess. I will send you some more post cards [sic] that I bought in this letter or with the picture one.

Your Son,
Tom D