



CAMP CROFT
SOUTH CAROLINA

Mon. 4/26/43
5:30 a.m.

Dear Mom.

I received your Easter Card Saturday, and at the same time got one from Etta Hill with two dollars enclosed. I got a letter off to the Hill girls yesterday to thank them for their gift. And, mom, I want to thank you for your dollar, too. It shall indeed be spent only for beer. As a matter of fact I have already spent 50¢ of it on beer. The rest shall go the same way when I get a chance.

It looks like a busy day for us today, and, in general, a busy week. We were up at 5 A.M. this morning, and the platoon sgt. says our working day runs from 7 A.M. to 11 P.M. The set-up as I understand it is that we'll have tomorrow off because of this, and then ~~Fri~~ Wed. morn at 3 A.M. we leave here on an extended night hike. As far as we know, these hikes may take place 3 times this week. Sounds interesting, anyway.

Easter here was just as beautiful, if not more so, as the ones I knew at home. The only thing lacking was all the ^{young} women in their colorful

Easter clothes. Did the 3 Sisters visit you over the holiday?

Tues. Morn 7:30 A.M. Well, ~~we~~ we didn't get back last night til 11 P.M. We left here at 7 P.M. and spent an hour setting out a compass course. Then we waited an hour 'til dark and made our way back by compass readings without lights. Lights went out at 12 midnight, and we got up at 5:30 this morning. Last nite we were so hungry when we came back that the fellows cleaned out their lockers & we had a feast. I donated my sardines, and they were damn good. Now all I have left is that bottle of alives - and I don't like alives.

10 A.M. Well, we had this morning "off". By off, I mean that 55 guys stayed in the barracks and gave it its regular spring cleaning. From 7 A.M. to 10 A.M. we scrubbed floors, washed woodwork, dusted, cleaned stairs, washed windows, hung screens, scoured the latrine, etc. I guess that'll be all we'll have to do 'til after chow at 11:30 today.

Still no word from Dot. Expect a letter from Joe soon, if he's not gone overseas yet. I was going to go down to see Joe on Easter weekend, but I couldn't get a pass to go over 50 miles, and Columbia is 92 or 96 miles away. No mail in 2 days. But today I expect at least one letter, probably from you. And I guess your package should arrive soon, too.

Gosh, but there's no news here! We're doing a helluva lot, but nothing that would make interesting writing.



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SOUTH CAROLINA

Say, that comment of Richies about Spartansburg gives me a laugh. What the hell does he think I am? A baby? Or does he feel I can't handle myself. God, he must think I haven't any common sense! Poor Richie!!

Remembered that ~~night~~ ^{letter in pencil} I started to tell you of something that happened to one of the fellows Lee, and then said it wouldn't be good for your morale if I did? Well, now it can be told. This fellow started to shiver like hell one night when we were all gabbing. Next thing I knew he was in the hospital, and a little while later we heard that he had pneumonia. He's well now, and home ~~on~~ on sick leave, though he was very near death at one time. But it developed for some strange reason we weren't quarantined. But, that's the Army. What a luluwa system! (though we're glad we weren't quarantined).

Well, just about run out of news. Hows the chicks? Take care the kids don't feed them apples & kill them like I did once. What's new about Steve? Still the

same old harem - scarem dog? Does he sleep with
the kids now — or show signs of missing Dot,
Joe, & me? Let me know.

Love, as ever,
Frank.

P.S. The Eagle shits Friday. Which is
just our way of saying its payday. I'll
let you know what my haul is.
Hope he shits a lot for me.

Frank.

Pvt. F. J. Shields, U. S. Army
 Co. A, 37th B'n, Bldg 218
 Camp Croft.
 South Carolina



Free.



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V- go up to Betty
she is at Bertus -
we're at the movies
Mother