

Sunday, July 10th 1943.
6.10 p.m.

Dear Fan:

Received your letter late Friday evening, mail service here for the summer is rotten. A ~~xxx half hour~~ half hour later that boy called me up. What a pleasant voice he has over the phone, although the connection on this end was a continuous buzz. He said he had gotten in Friday morning but that was the first chance he had to phone. He didn't expect to get home till some time on Saturday. He told me to be sure to remember him to you and that he was going to write you. Haven't had any more news from Joe, but you can bet since this invasion has started he must be in the thick of it. He will sure need our prayers now. He is probably in his glory as that was what he wanted, action.

Eugene D. and Collon were here Friday morning, Gene had been in on a 10 day furlough, but was so busy that was the only chance he had to say hello. He was returning on the 10 oclock train put of Penn. station Saturday nite. Collon reports to the induction C. next Wednesday July 14th, but says it will be a week or two before he goes in. When your letter came later ~~that day~~ that day I sent Betty down with it so Gene could read it and take the address, then he sent it over to John, so now they have all the latest news concerning you. Gene looks thin, said he had lost 20 lbs. His father told Betty if her Dad needed gas to go to him and he could have more than his stamps call for. Dam nice of him I think. Chief hasn't been using the car because he has no Govt. stamp. Jackie Keck goes to the Novitiate Aug 23rd, and reports to ~~Hungt~~ Huntington, Ind. which is about 80 miles from you but says they cannot have visitors, unless possibly at Xmas. Duffy has gone to Nashville, Tenn. Oussani reports to the Seminary, and they don't know anything about Starace. Congrats on your promotion Gene is also a Pfc. and said something about that was all he'd get for the duration. Dot hasn't written since June 29th, and I'm wondering what has happened as she didn't send any money home to pay her bills, am wondering if after all she is likely to be getting a furlough this month and is holding onto her dough for carfare, only other thing I can think of is she sent it and something happened to the mail. Pop, also Kate got a card sent out this week in which she said she'd see them soon. If she pulls a surprise visit I'll shoot her =, Showed Gene and John our Victory Garden, also the chickens. Joe asked for some more pic of everybody, also of Stupe, so I snapped some and if they come out O.K. I'll ~~xxx~~ send you some. By the way that Company pic of you is swell, wish Joe had a Co. pic taken, they are something nice to have later on in life. The U.S.O. sent me word that a record of your voice was coming but to date it hasn't arrived. Collon has started a diary which he plans to keep up after his induction and which should make pretty good reading matter when this is all ~~xx~~ over. Dot was saying a while ago she was sorry she hadn't ~~keep~~ kept notes on some of the interesting events of Army life, as she'd like to have it to look back over. Why don't you jot down notes of important happenings, send them home and I'll save them for you. I don't mean silly stuff but things that you might like to talk about and will have forgotten by the end of the war. I keep scanning the papers for names of some of Joe's officers, saw one today a Lt. Fletcher, but as he was from Mo. and a photographer I don't think it was the same one. I think Joe said Fletch came from New Rochelle. Did you get the letter I sent to Raleigh, saying Jimmy had been here on a visit July 5th. I sent him your address today and as he expects to be there at Long Beach till July 22nd, he said he would write. When he ships out he will send

us his address. He also has lost weight. Well Fan while I have started on a new sheet of paper I guess I will have to call a halt as I still want to write to Joe

Again Congbatulations on making College and the best of luck in all your work. You will have my prayers for success in your work, as this will mean all the time put in school will be that much less you will have to take when you get back to civilian life. I hear Cliffie is working in Sperry's I don't get it. they sayn he didn't like the work at Goodyears in Ackron. Why hasn't the army caught up with him if he is a graduate engineer? Not jealous, but just wondering. Collon says he wants to go in for languages.

Write and let us know how how things are going.

Love and pzayers from,
Mother.

244-87th St.
Bklyn, 9, N.Y.



Pfc. Francis J. Sheilds, 12110488

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