



CAMP HULEN
TEXAS

Friday

Dear Mother -

Today I received your letter and will answer immediately. Things have been rather quiet here. I am now back with the battery but we haven't done very much. Indeed yesterday I did absolutely nothing - just ate and laid around.

It is very hot during the day and cools at night.

I understand some of the other outfits are busy, but ours is mostly defense. We will leave though for another area either Monday or Tuesday.

All this month we will be in the field and subject to call at any time. We have found a swimming hole fairly nearby and I go swimming every now and then. It would be very nice as a change from civilian life, but I can't forget that I am in the Army.

Yesterday we had an announcement read to us which made everybody very happy. It seems they are going to let out the men right after maneuvers. It will be done slowly and only a few will get out when their year is up. But my particular class (one year voluntary enlistment) is believed to be in second place for discharge, the first being men with

dependants. Yesterday I was much excited, believing that I would get out on Oct. 9th. Now I'm not so sure, but having further developments I think I will get out at about four months after October. So the ship is leaving and maybe I was wise after all.

I am troubled though by the fact that I can make an application for officers school which shows one that it would be accepted. It would mean though that I would stay in maybe two years more. I don't think I'll apply as things seem to weigh against it - not by much though. What do you think?

Things do happen, don't they? - Old 'Perby' seems to have got herself in quite a mess. I'll let you women get a kick out of it!

Louisiana is quite a state. The towns are a bit cleaner and more civilized than Texas but its plenty 'comfy'. We are ^{not} supposed to drink any milk or eat ice-cream as their health laws are poor. We can however have a cool glass of beer! There is a very modern hotel in Alexandria which is our nearest town, about 10 miles south of us. It is crowded with soldiers and although rather ~~low~~ noisy and disorderly it is possible to talk and meet fellows from all over the U.S.

Well I'll close now with the hope of seeing you within a month.

Love.

Fred.

VIA AIR MAIL



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