

ORDNANCE SCHOOL  
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND  
MARYLAND

June 23

(mailed the 27<sup>th</sup>)

Dear Mother -

I received your 'fifth' letter today & it was the first one I have received and you can't imagine how much pleasure it brought. The other four are on their way either out here or to the bottom of the ocean. However it is more than likely that they ~~are~~ are still in the process of being sorted - distributed etc. It is a big job and made doubly hard by the fact that I have been on the move so much. I imagine that you are receiving mine. Please let me know which is quicker V-mail or regular.

It was strange to hear need of things you take for granted I know, although I was perfectly able to understand that you had had a trip to N.Y. I am glad that you enjoyed it and that things are apparently going on with Julia and you - at least as well as could be expected. It was too bad about the airplane crash. However accidents are inevitable and fortune is necessary.



I hope that the victory garden is a success and the tomato plants produce some nice big ones - just right for stuffing.

at first I thought that coming over here would be a good thing, but as yet my final job has not materialized. I spend most of the day training troops and putting them in mental, moral and physical shape. It's a tiring job and quite different from what I expected. However theoretically it is only temporary. Everything takes time in the army. I sleep next to a young captain out of West Point who is doing the same thing so I can't complain.

Our day starts at 6:30 and ends about 4:30 or 5. However now that it is getting pretty warm we may work ~~at~~ in the evening and take off the hot midday hours.

Tomorrow I am going to Oran for the after-noon and evening. We get one after-noon + evening off a week to go to town. There isn't much there but it is a fairly large city 150,000 or so - mostly French. The stores are pretty bare and the restaurants sell little food of poor quality for high prices. There are about three cafes restricted to officers. They are the meeting places. They're always crowded with soldiers, Navy and Air Force from all over the world.





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I met a fellow from Dartmouth who is in the Navy stationed near here. There are other friends + 'acquaintances' that you have met or with whom you have something in common. I met a fellow the other day who was in the 211 CA. in Texas. I didn't know him but he told me all the 'dope'. They are still located in San Francisco.

after a few mines in these places we go to the Officers Red Cross club for a sandwich and some lemonade. Then home to bed about 10:30. There are of course other temptations but I've been a good boy so far.

Our main problem to-night is dust. The wind is blowing and dust swirls all around - getting in our food etc. I don't like it very much but I guess will get used to it.

In the small recreation(?) hut we have had the boys are sitting around playing cards, reading



or fumbling with the radio. We are in the center of radio reception and can get English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Arabic, Egyptian and Jewish from Palestine. However most of it is too blurred with static both natural and artificial so our radio doesn't amount to ~~too~~ much.

Thanks for the picture of the house. I like it very much and any small pictures will be appreciated. I have a small picture of you, Julia and Uncle Jack which I took at Hanover.

When I get more permanently located there will be a few things I would you to send out - namely some film. However wait until I let you know.

Will you measure a mile with the car from our house up pleasant street down Lincoln. We have to run 3 or 4 miles every now and then and I would like to know about how far a mile would be. I thought it was a mile from home to the city hall but I believe now I'm wrong.

Well lots of love and good-bye for now.

Just.

P.S. Ask some questions & I will answer them if I can.

P.S. Give my love to 'bird'.

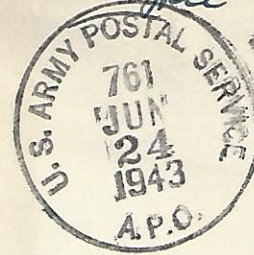


LT. W.F. BACHOLDER 01354P52

A.P.O. 8913

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