



UNITED STATES ARMY

Easter Sunday April 9, 1944

Hello Everyone,

This is my sixth day in the hospital and I am feeling pretty good. My temperature was normal last night and again this morning. If all goes well I should be leaving here Tuesday.

I have tried several times to start writing individual letters to some of you but never know where to start, so I have decided to write just one letter to all, as the army's demands on my time won't permit too much writing. Here in the hospital I have the time, but won't when I get back with my outfit, as this seventeen weeks program is really a full one. And when I get back I will have lost a weeks training.



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Yesterday morning I was classed as 3-F patient, or an ambulatory patient, which means I can be up and around the hospital, taking my meals in the mess hall, and go to the post exchange, post office, and Red Cross Recreation Building.

Yesterday afternoon I saw a U.S.O. show at the Red Cross and it was very good. Six colored people, three girls & three gals, some big singing some playing, for singing and not dancing, and some good jokes and stories. At 7:30 tonight we

have to go back there for some kind of games. Participation in Red Cross activities is compulsory with all ambulatory patients.

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Yesterday afternoon I saw a U.S.O. show at the Red Cross and it was very good. Six colored people, three guys & three gals, some boogie woogie piano playing, fair singing, excellent dancing, and some good jokes and stories. At 7:30 tonight we have to go back there for some kind of games. Participation in Red Cross activities is compulsory with all ambulatory patients.

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desk and I don't like the looks of that last paragraph as I was interrupted a couple of times. The fellow in the bed next to mine just had a chill & I helped with the blanket and hot water bottles. He gets from three to six of them a day, and they're not very pleasant. Last Wednesday was his 23rd birthday and he has been in the army for 4 years & 10 months, 17 months of which were spent in the South Pacific, where he contracted malaria and yellow jaundice. These chills last from 5 to 15 minutes each and even with 6 blankets and 4 hot water bottles, he shivers so much the whole bed shakes.

As I am writing this, it is raining to beat hell outside, and looks quite dark & dreary. The land on which this camp is sit-



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nated is a sandy sort of a red soil full of small white stones. The mud that gets on one's shoes comes off quite easily when dry, because it's not gummy or clay-like. And having to do my own shoe-polishing here, I appreciate that. The climate here so far has been fairly good. It has rained 3 out of the 12 days since I arrived, but I did manage to get a little sun-burned during the few days I was out. The nights are quite cool and in the barracks I sleep in my underwear (light) and sweater under 3 blankets. That sweater has come in very handy.

I haven't been able to find out yet whether I will be permitted to have the camera here. And, incidentally, this writing case has fallen almost completely apart. The outside cover-



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ing is made of the same paper as the envelope pockets which are over half torn off. I hope it holds together until the stationary runs out.

I have just finished my dinner which consisted of roast turkey, mashed potatoes with giblet gravy, fresh (frozen) peas, bread and butter, ice cream, milk, and a little basket of candy with a card and decorated napkins supplied by the Junior Red Cross of Little Rock.

I went to the P.X. last night and had my shoes shined and my hair cut. There isn't a hair on my head over three-quarters of an inch long. Washing it and combing is no problem at all now.

I guess that will be about all for this time, will write again when I have the time.

Jalimur