

December 19 – Wednesday.

My Dearest Wife:-

Well, as I predicted to you in my letter yesterday, the snow nearly all left us today. The sun came out good and strong and it went off fast. We had a somewhat busier day today than we have had for the past few days. After I had completed my exchange and mess work today, I gave part of the Company setting up exercises and immediately afterwards we took them over for a sing and spent nearly all the remainder of the morning there. Where I returned to camp I found a perfectly wonderful letter from you and certainly did enjoy it. It was much nicer was it not dear, to find the children well when you reached home, instead of sick as they were the last time? I am now sure that I can get away Sunday but will have to return to Camp. I think that Monday night I can get per-

mission to remain in town, and spend all day Tuesday with you. This is as definite information as the Major can give me so early in the week but I may be able to get more leave taken in the week. Have you heard anything from Tud about the car as yet? You know Honey I am anxious to know and will appreciate your letting me know as soon as anything is done. This afternoon Major Morrow, Lt. Chaney and I, went to the pistol range for some pistol practice. I made a fairly good score but Chaney made some excellent shots. I only made one bull's eye in all my shooting although the others were close enough to have made a German look sick if I had been shooting

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at him instead of the target. My pen just ran dry so I will finish this letter with pencil if you don't mind, as nearly everyone else here is writing and all other pens are busy. Villars and Tony have gone to town tonight. They are sure heavy social weights. They are at it all the time and are nearly dead for sleep as a result.

My hands are getting badly chopped again as a result of washing with hot water. If I use hot water they chap right away but cold water fixes them all O.K. I have a nice tube of cold cream also and I will use some of it tonight.

I presume Fisher is nearly ready to start for Grand Rapids to finish his leave of absence there. I haven't heard a word from him since he left but that is not so strange for I did not write him all the week I was away. I hope he does not come there while you all are down here.

The cold I had a few days ago is making the rounds of the barracks Captain Vanderveer has it now and believe me he has it bad. Rosy just got over it and Villars shows

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signs of coming down with it.
Well my lover dear, I am
going to close and get washed
up for mess. I love you my
dearest, with all my heart and
can hardly wait for the wonder-
ful time I know we are
going to have when you are
here Christmas. Don't forget
to write me about the tree.
Give my dear love and kisses
to all and loads of love
to you dear girl. I love you and
my babies – Oh! so much.

Daddy.