

Ft. Oglethorpe Ga.  
July 12, 1938

Dear Dorothy,

I was very glad to get a letter from home. Yours was the first in about ten days. I thought no one was going to write. I was late in answering Bill's letter tho so I guess we are even.

I had forgotten all about Alpine. I wish I could have been with Alvin and Hearst at Conference. Hearst wanted me to stay home and go with him. You may think ~~at~~ salt & pepper and water is pretty bad ~~big~~ but you ought to be down here. Every thing from short sheeting to syrup is put in barrels.

We had a wind storm last night. One tent in our troop street blew down. I don't know how many others did.

Some one woke us up about eleven thirty and told us to roll our tent flaps down. Then we had to hurry outside in pajamas and loosen the tent ropes. It was the strongest wind I've ever been in. I thought the tent was going to fall every minute.

All Basics went on a seven mile hike last Friday. We left camp with a shelter half, two blankets, five tent stakes, and a canteen of water. We marched through Chicama Park (I can't spell it) and back through camp to a field about a mile from camp. I forgot to add a rifle to the list of things we carried. <sup>(Total weight was 35 lb)</sup>

A truck brought mess kits and chow after we pitched our tents. It rained that night and I caught a cold. I ~~am~~ didn't report for sick call but I am about well now.

We came straight back to camp the next morning. Not marching the long way around.

We have paraded twice since I have written home. The first time six C troopers fell out (fainted in line). The last time (yesterday) one F trooper fell out.

I went with F troop Basics mounted yesterday. I had a good time but got pretty hot. We had to fall out for parade within five minutes after we got back. I was so hot I was afraid I might faint but didn't.

We had scout patrol one day last week. I had to crawl about 100 yds on my stomach as flat on the ground as I could.

We had an easy time today. The Basics watched the others "sham battle." We had to walk about two or three miles to Snod-Grass field to watch them. We do the same thing

tomorrow.

Hugh's boils are better and he is out of the Hospital now. He stayed in the Hospital about ten days.

Wednesday afternoon is the last day to parade. We get our clothes Thursday, our money to go home on Friday and leave for home some time (15<sup>th</sup>) Friday.

A boy is going to the post office so I will stop and let him take it over for me.

Tell Mama not to work too hard canning black berries.

Love

Russell