

Thurs. 9-9-43
7:45 P.M.

Dear Mom,

I suppose I do have a knack for making things look darker than they really are. But if loss of a furlough and an extra 4-week addition to the term were the worst I had to worry about in the Army, life would be very bright indeed.

As I recall, my last sorrowful letter was written on a Tuesday. Must have been one of my bad days. 'Cause Mon. nite, when the announcement was made, we all joked about it. And Wednesday morning we were again all as bright and chipped as ever. A few mos. in the Army teaches you to let adversity roll off your back like water off a duck's. Remember that wasn't the first time I'd been disappointed. The didn't give me a furlough after Basic either. But just assured that now, at least, everything's O.K. We're all looking forward again to the end of the term, 6 weeks & 2 days away.

I know you were all pleased to hear that Italy had surrendered. It was more than welcome news here too. But perhaps I can ~~get~~ rejuvenate your pleasure at this news with another choice bit. The bulletin board announced today that the term officially ends Oct 23, a Saturday. And the new term (12-week one, by the way) starts Mon, Nov 8. Consequently, the notice continued, all who ~~were~~ ^{are} interested in a furlough from Oct 23 to Nov. 3 must report before next

Monday to the orderly room to sign their names,
and furlough addresses on the proper forms.
So you see, the furloughs are coming - ten
day ones at that; and they're getting all set
for the filling out & signing of the forms.
Of course, it's a bit early to speculate, but
I should get to N.Y. some time Sun nite,
Oct 24. Woo-woo!

Tonight the mail brought a Gov't card
giving me Bob Roche's APO address. And,
where do you think it came from? From
the Army Embarkation Post at 1st Ave & 56th
St. Can you imagine, he was only 30 blocks
from our home. I wonder if they were granted
passes while they were there. If they were, I
wish I'd dropped in to see 'em all.

The news about Tommy Armony, the Florig-
ans and the Walkoffs impressed me. Also that
about Cordy's mother, God rest her soul.

Yesterday rec'd your acknowledgement of the
\$21. Don't worry, the finances didn't sound Greek
to me. But I feel that that dough in the
bank will all be shot on my furlough. O, well,
here today, gone tomorrow.

Today was a bad one for me. Woke up
this Am. with the G.I.'s (dribbly "shits"),
and had periodic cramps all day. Slight case
of dysentery from some place or other I guess. But tonight
everything, thank God, is all right. Just sore
stomach muscles.

Looks like I'll sign off for lack of news. By the
way, I'd sent Dot, Charlie & Betty cards before
you'd arrived. Also, Joe informs me he's now
made 19 flights. Love & prayers, as ever
Frank.

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