



UNITED STATES ARMY

22 December 1943.

Wednesday.

My Darling Wife,

Hello, honey. Hope that you are well and not too tired. Hope that Laura is well and happy. I am fine. We had a swell dinner party last night. We had chicken, salad, hot biscuits, cake, coffee, all the beer we could drink, etc.

Well, I have been wanting to tell you about the trip back to camp but have not had a chance before. That Santa Fe train was about the slowest train that I ever ~~took~~<sup>ridden</sup>. They had too many cars for the engine to handle and at every stop they stayed almost twice as long as scheduled due to the fact that there were so many passengers loading and unloading. It was a good thing that I was able to get a good seat and a pillow so that I could sleep.

I slept a good deal on the way to Chicago, but when I got there so late and had such a long lay-over there I was so worried about being late that I couldn't sleep the rest of the way.

I tried to get a bus out of Chicago - but no sale. Then when I got to Cincinnati there were no busses from there that would beat the train so I had to take the train.

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When I got to Charlottesville, Va. I had to lay-over another three hours. So, I finally got to camp about 11:00 am Monday. I don't know when I felt any worse - I certainly hated being late.

The Commanding Officer gave me a short lecture, but as I told you before he is tops. I didn't mind being straightened out by him because I know that I had it coming. I will lose two days pay and my ration money and have two days bad time. Also, as a result I will be redlined on the pay roll this month and won't get this month's pay until next month.

I got back to camp with \$1.20<sup>00</sup> and paid the Red Cross. So, I will keep the other money to try to last for about a month and a half, <sup>to Sunday</sup> ~~to~~ telling when I will get paid again as we will undoubtedly be moving before I am due to be paid.

Well, honey, my lunch hour is almost gone so I will close until tonight. However, I will start another letter tonight and get this in the mail today.

Lots of love, honey.

Your loving husband,  
Cliff