

May 12th



Dear Mom

notice the date on this letter. Well I came in the army one year ago today. say that was a long year. I hope the next goes faster. Well Mom how does things strike you now. sure looks good huh. you know the jobs wont last too long. I hope because I wont get home till its over.

I'm hoping Lee can come home soon. I think he has enough pts. to get out on this new pt. system. I sure hope so. Me I have only 17 pts. I'm gonna be 30 yr. ^{near}

Mom dont worry about Lee hes okay. foaky Lee tell you all I know about this dysentery. Everyone here gets it sooner or later. Some three and four times. I know a hundred guys with it or that has had it. Some is worse than others and I guess Lee had the worst of it. I cant understand how they didnt know how to get rid of it on him. I was talking to one guy here yesterday. He just came back from the hospital with it. And he passed blood. He had it bad. They give ^{him} ~~the~~ about 16 shots with a



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long needle too, I might say. Also about 10
 enemas and around 60 or a 100 pills.
 Now I expect to get it before I leave
 India and am just sweating it out
 cause when I get it I'll just go to the
 hospital for 6 days take one shot a day
 about 12 pills a day then get out and
 take about 10 pills a day for the next
 10 days a two weeks. That's for the
 average case. The worst ones I told you
 about first. It's not pleasant but
 it's just a part of the army and India.
 So forget all your troubles about it.
 And if you think he don't want to
 come home just go to Guinea and see
 how fast he gets on that boat. If
 they come to see and said he had
 30 minutes to pack and get on the
 boat. He would be on the boat
 and 29 minutes to wait. And I'm
 not joking. That goes for me too.
 That's one time you break all records.

Now I have to go on a detached
 service trip. So I can't write for a while
 unless I can write after I get to where



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Am going. This goes on all the time. When one place needs men they get some from another place till the job is done they wanted done. I work in airplane salvage. Planes get too old they bring them up we take them apart and save the good parts. also we go get planes that have accidents. I can learn about planes now. I have seen different then anything else that has an engine.

Now another thing no one gets discouraged when it comes to going home. And don't be careful what you say. I hate just what you shouldnt do. Maybe you think soldiers are pansies. Say what ever you feel like saying. He can take it. I hate what you do in the army take it all the time. When you talk to your buddy about being sick they start telling you when your going to die. And if you go for a plane ride before you leave they start telling you about plane crashes and they hope your parachute opens and so on. And if you mention going home well then all you



here in three years or more like you
 can go home. That's the way it is and I
 know ~~for~~ more about it than me. And
 he's been in combat and knows he's better
 off by far now. So don't worry no more.
 And if Phil gives you a line don't
 listen to it cause it's silly. Joe is
 no baby. He never was. And he always
 roamed around. Just think of the poor
 guys that had never left home before.
 Some guys are crazy to go back. Joe
 okay. When the chance Joe turned down
 in Jan to go home was a 30 day furlough
 where you go home for 30 days and come
 back. He wants to sweat out rotation.
 And he is right. He can get a 45 day
 furlough anytime now but who wants
 to come back. And he will be home soon.
 Don't forget it.

Man this country is no good and
 if and when I say go in the hospital
 don't worry. It's usually some skin disease
 or bad irritation from the dirt and heat.
 And everyone has to go sometime or other. And
 it's a relief anyway to go.

Must close, I'll write as soon as I can Joe Clyde.