

Fort. Bragg, N.C.  
Jan 5, 1942

I have recieved both your package and letters. Thank you for the package you don't know how it hit the spot. You can't begin to imagine how welcome it was. Yes, the package was a little late, and even though the box was beat up beyond recognition, the cake was still intact. You see our mail had to first come to Bragg, then to the base camp, after which it was sorted and sent out to us. Consequently the mail changed bags several times, thus taking an awful beating. Being transported in army trucks doesn't help any either.

We are back in Bragg again after being out there twenty days. Rumors have it that we won't be here long. But no one knows, when we do move, we move at a moments notice.

I enjoyed my stay immensely. I made a lot of friends (yes a few girl friends) while out there.

Although for Christmas I didn't have a very good time, I spent a very enjoyable evening New Years Eve, at the home of James Hardy (no not Judge Hardy). They are very nice folks. He was full of fun and all were very sensible and religious. Can you imagine me making friends with a religious family. They are well to do. He being superintendant of the safety department of the T.V.A. covering nine states and nine dams.

We had home made fruit cake. Boy! was it good! The coffee was also very good, much better than any we get day in and day out. I was to have chicken dinner at their home today. Darn the luck. I also had three other invitations to other homes.

There are two children in the Hardy home. They are twins James and Jeanette. Both go to school at Berea College in Kentucky.

Uncle wired me some money for Christmas but unfortunately I haven't been able to get it yet.



I also recieved a nice big box from Lloyd and Agnes with home made cookies and candy, a handkerchief from Cubers, and cards from most everyone I know.

You asked me in your last two letters what I'd like for Christmas, you couldn't have made a better choice. I meant to tell you what I'd like, but everytime I wrote it slipped my mind. I'm sure sorry I didn't tell you, I assure you I didn't do it intentionally.

Let me give you a tip, you'll never go wrong <sup>by</sup> ~~if~~ you send anyone in the service something to eat. That is one thing you can't overdo, to send anyone away from home something to eat.

Nearly everyone of us recieved packages with eats in them. They all disappeared in a jiffy. It seems that we are always hungry, especially for homemade stuff, so it goes like wildfire.

Incidentally do you still saw match folders? I have meant to



ask you several times. If you do,  
I may be able to help your collection  
some with a few folders from this  
part of the country.

Our stay in Itiwassee was  
uneventful, except for having a swell  
vacation (with lot of hard work along with it);  
there was nothing unusual. There were  
five shots fired. The men behind the  
guns that did the shooting swore it  
was human beings they shot at. But it  
could have been anything from a field  
mouse to a deer, or maybe they were humans.  
In any event we were awoken from  
sound and very much needed sleep all  
three times, to scatter out in the woods,  
and hunt for the noise maker, finding  
nothing but trees, leaves, and darkness.

It did prove one thing, that  
the boys were awake and meant  
business. If anyone had disobeyed in  
anyway it might have been curtains  
for them.

We only <sup>received</sup> ~~got~~ mail ~~twice~~ three  
times while out there, therefore it came  
to me all at once. I have a lot to catch  
up on. So I'll be writing again soon. Pito.