



11-4-43

Dear Folks,

Primary at last. The day I have been ^{existing} living for, for the past 9 months has finally arrived and it is almost too good to be true. The first day here caused me to get back some faith in humanity. We found out that some of those things the ~~reg~~ recruiting officer used to speak of about cadet life are true. When we dug our tired bodies off of the troop train last night at 11:30 and came out here the first thing that impressed us was that there weren't any yelling and screaming officers, no bellowing upperclassmen. All there was, was one soft spoken upperclassman who took us off of the bus, that brought us from the train to the field, and marched us about 50 yards to a building. We filed through the building and were handed a card that had a barracks no. on it. That was the last time we saw anyone until this morning when a bell rang and we gathered it was time to get up. The field isn't very big so we had no trouble ~~from~~ finding our

"hone". When we walked in the door we couldn't believe our eyes, spring beds with inter spring mattresses. I still can't believe it. The next thing was the food. When I was at Sheppard I said the food was good, when I was at Plalady I said the food was good, when I was at the Clarification Center I didn't complain, and when I was at Maxwell I still didn't complain but, this food is actually the best I ever ate in my life outside that served at 512 and at Aunt Mary's. It's the best food I've seen in many moons and excellently prepared.

They bring out great after great of milk and there is no limit to the amount times you can go back for seconds for food. Tonight for example we had huge broiled steaks with all of the trimmings.

Tomorrow classes start - 2 hrs. a day - and the next day flying starts. It's going to hard, very hard, 50% still wash out, but I am going to enjoy every second of it.

Before I forget it Dorsey Hawkins said to tell Mr. + Mrs. Hays hello and that his wife said hello to Mrs. Hays. That is supposed to be a crack at your Papa.

It's almost bed time so I'll quit and take a hot shower before retiring.

all my love,

JOE