

Folk July, 1943

Dear Folks,

If there isn't too much excitement going on around the house I guess Ruth + Iris are saying again, "He could at least write a postcard." Maybe I could and maybe I couldn't but any way here goes with a letter.

The best of my recollections tell me that I have done naught toward writing home since I moved into my new room except a ~~clever~~ clever postcard advising you of my change in address. I've written Brattle + Sgt. telling them

about my room⁽²⁾ mates but not you. This
time there is just two of them and

Praise the Lord, they are both Texans.

One of them is from Dallas. He
is married and is about 22 years old. His
wife is in Nashville living in a apt.
close to Peabody. She has a job upstairs
to help pay the expenses. His name is
Harry Harry M. Harrison. I bumped
right across the aisle from him at
Sheppard Field. I don't know whether
I have mentioned it or not but he
is one of those poor unfortunate characters
that got a month's guard duty for

talking in ranks. ⁽³⁾ Talking in ranks in the
regular U. S. army is an offense that
draws no more punishment than
a "~~shudup~~" "Shudup" and a
dirty look from the sergeant. But
had a log with anything else that
you do out of line it means a matter
guard duty, and perhaps he washed out.

~~My~~ My other roommate
is a real Texan, the kind that you read
about in books. His name is Robert A.
Harmon and he claims San Antonio
as his home. He was born in the
U. S. but when he was but a few months

old his parents ⁽⁴⁾ moved ~~to~~ to Mexico
so that they could look after their ranches
and oil property that ~~was~~ ^{were} there. When
he was about five years old Mexico
started all of this confiscation of U. S.'s
oil property so he and his parents
came back ~~to~~ ^{to} San Antonio and started
little Bobbie to school. He couldn't
and wouldn't speak English at the time
but Lonesomere got the best of him
so he learned ~~to speak English~~. When he
was about 14 years old his old man
gave him three ranches which he now
owns and runs at his own disposition.

(5)

Two small ones are in East Texas within
about 50 miles of Tyler, and the other
one, a big one is in South Texas, close to
San Marcos. He attended a military
school during his high school days ^{and} ~~but~~
enrolled in the U. of Texas at the tender
age of 16. He had completed three years
of work when he was notified that his
Uncle Sam had need of his services. He
is just 19 now and is really a well
fellow. Both of my room mates are
tops and I hope that I get to stay
with them next month, which is supposed
to be my last month here.

6th

7-5-43

I didn't get to finish this yesterday
as I knew that I wouldn't if I went
to church. I didn't think that you
would mind getting this one day late
if you knew that your little Jubil
went to church. I didn't go uptown
to the Christian church as I usually
do with Carl Hathaway, but went
to an Episcopal Methodist or something,
that is about a block south of the
Campus just across the street almost
from the Belmont Station, Ryth's Robt.

Harmon and I ^{met} together. Now for
the reason that I didn't finish it
yesterday afternoon. We had to put
on a show that is continuing through
today for the poor little 17+18
year old boys that are about to
to join something but can't decide
what. We had to march in some
formation out to Centennial Park where
our band played a concert and
then march back home again. Then
when we got back we ~~to~~ put on a
formal retreat for about a hundred
visitors, and then I had to stand

guard mount ⁽⁸⁾ the go on guard.

Incidentally I am still on but this is one of my off periods between two home shifts. There are a bunch of 17+18 year olds running around here seeing how we live. Ha!! They should have been here Saturday when we were getting ready for them if they really wanted to see how we lived. I pushed a wheel barrow about 7 miles by honest calculations, I did lots of other things too but that was my main job. There are ~~not~~ no classes today just ball games, calisthenics,

variety slow⁽⁹⁾ etc., its a shame to
disillusion the poor little innocent
characters like that but the Army
needs recruits I guess.

Ruth, I don't live in the Graduate
Dorm. any more, but the West Dorm,
right across the plaza from it.

Mr. + Mrs. Hays, are you going
to come see me? I have changed my
mind about what I said at first
about not getting ^{well} to^{well} each other very much
etc. I had talked to several boys who
claim that their parents had satisfactory

visits with them. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Write for reservation
and everything like I said and let
me know how you make out.

If I don't write Amy myself tell her
to send me Jerome's address on the
double so that I can get in touch with
him before he gets here. If it ^{is} already
too late for that tell him how to
get in touch with me.

I'm tired & sleepy so am going to
bed for a few minutes before show.

Look for a call bright and early
next Sunday morning.

Love, Joe