



FORT BRAGG, N. C.

January 24, 1942
2nd Plat. Barracks. 9:00 A.M.

Go.
We are having a lull
just now, so I thought I would
employ these few minutes in
apologizing for my previous letter.
I'm sorry. I thought that it had
been much longer since I had
answered.

The pictures are very nice.
Not only the subjects, but also
the the grade of the pictures. I'm
sure, though, that the subjects
had a lot to do with the quality
of the pictures. And I do mean
they are good.

You tell me that you
sent the pictures for me to
~~look at~~ see. I have seen them

How may I keep them? I would like to keep them.

When you write to Harry tell him "hello," and that it won't be long until we will join him in actual fighting.

I'm sending you a picture that was sent to me by a person in Hiwassee. It isn't exactly good, but it is unique, in that none of us who are in it, suspected that we were being photographed. I didn't know it had been taken until yesterday when I received it.

The fellow behind me is Jimmy (Andy) Hardy. The fellow I told you I met and spent several evenings at his home. The fellow we are talking to is Johnny Tucci (pronounced tussi) one of our cooks. As you can see in the picture your brother isn't the shortest soldier. As a matter of fact I was surprised at the number of soldiers shorter than myself



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At the time the picture was snapped I was cracking a walnut in my hands. I was ~~in it~~ eating nuts given to me by Jimmy. The picture was taken the day we were relieved by the men ~~going on~~ who had returned from furlough, so the rest of the men could go on furlough. As you know I remained. I was saying goodbye to Tucci. I had just come off duty.

Due to the fact that I have but this one picture, and unable to get more, I would like it back. Just thought you would like to see what your brother looks like to other people. In ^{criticizing} ^{spelling?} (criticizing) the picture you must remember that we had been

out there over two weeks, sleeping in our clothes, playing, and working in them without being able to get them cleaned.

The photographer was a woman who was the community's "busybody." You know every community has one. A social worker, forever trying to do something so as to get it in her local paper.

To give you an idea of ~~what~~ ^{we are} how well informed, as to what is coming in the future, I'll give you a few happenings in the last week or so. A few days ago we were given inoculations ~~on~~ for yellow fever in the morning. That afternoon we had a lecture and practice on the field tactics of ^{the} infantry in extreme sub-zero temperatures. Also a description on the clothing worn in extreme cold weather.

The following day we practiced disembarking from boats and simulated beach landings. In the afternoon we



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had problems simulating heavily wooded areas. A few days later we had lectures on fighting in desert country and in jungle country, swampy country. You see we have no more of an idea, as to when or where we are going, than you or any average civilian does!

We are told to stop writing home of our activities and duties. As far as the press is concerned they don't know where we were in Dec. I have read several articles dealing with our absence from the Post. They all told of our being on guard, but that due to ~~the~~ it being a military secret, were unable to disclose ~~the~~ the whereabouts of our duties.

If I should quit writing
you will know that the reason
is for our benefit. Don't worry about
it and don't believe everything
you read in the papers. ~~Unless it~~
~~is sufficient~~

I will send you a few
match folders I have. Will send
more as I find them.

It has been quite warm
and pleasant.

I seem to have run out
of conversation so I'll quit for the
time being. Remember I want
the picture back. ^{and} Unless I'm told
otherwise I'm keeping the pictures
you sent me.

'Bye now
Peto

No, I didn't get the money
Uncle sent me. The telegram was
cancelled, due to my being away
so long.



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No, we don't have to go through any 'red tape' to get the money. It is just that Western Union money orders are good only at the office of arrival. As the money came when we were at Newassce I was unable to collect. When we did return the money had been cancelled.

Betty, did that sister of mine get her hair fixed?
Hello! Betty. Ato.

Go, you say Betty's brother's letters have been returned. Where was he stationed? Was he in the 44th Division? If so they have moved out. They came by here some time ago. Ask her if she is sure she has the right address. By that I

mean the right company and regiment or detachment. I'm sure if she has the right address he will receive her mail. Tell her to check up on his address again. Not only the camp but his outfit.

If she has his correct address I'm sure he will get the mail regardless of where he is sent. It will catch up with him through the Army Post Office.

She might have made a small mistake, if so they would not have a record of him. Just a little thing as his company. You must remember there are some 12,000 to 15,000 men in a Division and it is hard to find one man.

The Post Office Department is one department of the army that is really efficient. Tell Betty to keep trying. At the present there is a lot of movement of troops so it may take time.