

Service Club

Sunday



U. S. ARMY

4/25/43

Honey,

I postponed writing you
last night because I didn't
want to write a gloomy letter.
But if I'm going to write at
this moment I can't be very
happy. It is tough & hard -
and, unquestionably, it
will be worse. That is the
situation I see & the one
I must continue to see.

There appears to be nothing I
can do about it except take it.
Hence, to the best of my
ability, I will take it.

Yesterday we had a rough
morning & an early ~~start~~

2/ afternoon. So, at a little
before 7 I walked into
town with Mr. Judge, a
Crews from Kir, and Thomas
Havel, from. Offt. Corp.
Counsel of N.Y.C., who was
with me the first time I
was here. I got to town, felt
the strain & had to return
immediately. On the way
back I had to stop & rest
several times. Almost in the
pt I stopped & set on a rail-
ing in the street. It was
~~bad~~ bad. My back hurt &
my knees rebelled. So, this
morning I found in this
sick call at 7:30, getting
no relief. I stood in
the shop at 10:15

3/ when I was called in to see
a doctor, a Service Club
Lieutenant.

He asked me what was
wrong & I told him
mainly that I was having
trouble with my back & knees.



He asked for nothing - not
even the brief case of case
histories - and told me I
needed a lot of discipline in;

- 2) I was 45 lbs overweight;
- 3) I was eating too much;
- 4) I have to walk 4 or 5

miles in addition to my
training daily! He told him

I was eating no starches,

but I had unstable my

food (he told me I had to

eat less of everything,

regardless of what kind of

4) food - I have to eat 7,90 less!)
intake, that I was taking
thyroid. He told me to stop
taking thyroid - that would only
make me nervous!

I will eat lunch today
because I'm hungry. We
haven't had enough to eat
since I've been here, so I
don't have to worry about eating
too much. I have been trying
to find someone to walk into
town with me, but because
it is raining I as yet have
had no success. If it starts
off a little on the rain I'll
try to walk it alone. I'll
make ~~an~~ effort to do what
he told me. But I can not
allow myself to build up
any hope. See I can help as

5) That his "treatment" would
be too pain-Service Club ful, and, deep
inside, I know what he was talking
about.



U. S. ARMY

When he finished his little
ex. O. O. O., "I have been doing that
for 4 or 5 months, Sir, but if
those are orders, Sir, take them."
He said this ~~was~~ ^{was} not ^{an} order
but "advice". I did not say
anything in response, but I
thought a hell of a lot!
A lot about him & guys like
him who compound rather
than alleviate suffering; about
the utter foolishness of trying
to make a military police-
man of me a guy like me;
and above all of the cruelty

6) + injustice of keeping me +
the many others in similar
conditions even in the Army.
Unquestionably there could
be things such men can
do - in fact, there are -
but who ever heard of
one getting ~~at~~ any of them.

At the moment all I
can say that is on the
pleasant side is that I
am extremely grateful for that
short interlude at Rio, which,
while not completely without
out discomfort + pain, was
at least not too bad.


How, I hate to write
you such a letter as this, one,

7/ was it not in my this
morning ^{Service Club} ~~of~~ ^{under} not
have. But several
reason ⁱⁿ ^{filled}
no to. Perhaps, now
that I have it out, I'll feel a
bit better. Also, I think you
should know. And I should
like to have a word of these
things.



Now I can give you certain
assurances, so don't feel badly.
I have on the one hand, given
up all hope of finding a
congenial job in the army. I
will not build up any false
hopes on this score, for it
would be foolish & costly to do
so. So, I am going to try to
get a dis charge. I honestly
think I am ~~to~~ entitled to one.

8) I don't think there is any
chance that I'll get one, but
that is all I can see - it is
the only possible solution -
even though it may be
impossible. On the other
hand, you may be assured
that whenever I come, I will
take it in a way if which you,
I or any of our children (I
hope will have some soon)
will not be offended. As to
this point I have taken everything.
I have asked no details, no
details. I have always done
my own work. And I have
done more than was necessary.
I'll continue to do what I
have to.

9/ I hope this letter is not too
illegible. I am ^{Service Club} writing it on a
copy of LIFE,  while sitting
near a window. There is nothing
in the boxes in which I might
write - we don't even have
footlockers! And that reminds
me: I'll probably begin to send
odd & ends of things home. I have
too much stuff if I am to
live out of furrows, boys, boys
which we haven't even a plan to
keep.

And so I had to my box
Sunday morning. Chow call
was 20 minutes ago - but I
felt so low I didn't answer it.
I'll work up & take what is left.
Meanwhile, maybe things

10/ will change. I should have a
pretty good idea of what will
be by the end of the well. To-
morrow they are really going to
start work a vs. drills ^{etc.} from
5:30 until 8:00.

Hi, honey, don't worry about
me. I'll make out. The only
difference is whether or not
I'm in pain, & no pain I can
have can compare with that of
the method of our valiant
allies & our own men who
do honor to the name "Soldier"
while the rest has here by their
side to beaming it. Thank God we're
not profiting the war here!

Love to you, honey - & I hope
I'll hear from you soon. Harold

5/25/43

Dear - Please letters to me thought
might interest you. I'm still busy, still
stay; no raining again. Nothing
else new. We knew yet of ship news,
but I still have my fingers for Xes!
I hope to get close to you

The Judge is going 20 miles
from home. He left this a.m.

If we leave tomorrow - if we
have not been told that we will - it
will be on the anniversary of
my departing to my job. But
it is beginning to look as though
we may not leave tomorrow.

I am hoping to cash a check.
So let you know when I do & how
much it is.

Write you folks & ask what
in the past few days. What is new
in that situation.

I am curious about the N. Hill.

Have seen and heard O. Davis.
Hope it passes, that the party
tempted is a success & that
there are no complications ahead.

Pray you are not well, & hope
it at least means good news.

By the way, if you can
read Alvin's writing, ~~you~~ see
how well Fudlin is getting.

As I have said before, he
believes Truman has solved his problem
only when he gets the solution. I
don't think he will unless he
undergoes drastic changes.

No comment on V.'s return.

Prayer now is looking like
you should take the shots. See
Cecil & let you know. As soon as
I can I'll tell you. Prayer now
knows me & not as the rest are
destined by Mrs. Puffin. With me -
I can only hope - I do hope - Pray'll keep
them well. Love always.

5/25/43

Ben - just a nice
morning because it is close
to going - so - work time, &
taking in the equipment
that has been covered & re-
finishing the forms will be quite
a job. Had a tough day
yesterday, too.

But nothing can make
me unhappy today, because
now we will be able to continue
with the Replacements. I was
assured yesterday I would be
shipped to a place no farther
than distant from Washington
than N. Y. C.

And I am optimistic about
it!

I still don't know when a
when. But it doesn't make
much difference now. And I'm
pretty confident it ~~will~~
will be tomorrow some-
time. So judge you this
morning - to a place 20 miles
from his home.

I would like Johnny
or John Davis about the follow-
ing but haven't time. Please
ask them to get me a fairly
complete account of the John E
Kelly trial. I understand
Sunday PM had a good
story. Thank

Good bye for the moment
Love
Wesley