

Service Club



U. S. ARMY

Sunday  
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 ~~the~~  
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 <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ not <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~  
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 with-  
out discomfort & pain, was  
at least not too bad.

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


7/ was it not in my this  
morning <sup>Service Club</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>under</sup> not  
have. But several  
reason <sup>in</sup> <sup>filled</sup>  
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 come, I'll will  
take it in a way if which you,  
I or any of our children (I  
hope will have some soon)  
and we be ashamed - I'll do  
his point I have taken everything.  
I have asked no duties, 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 <sup>Service Club</sup> writing it on a  
copy of LIFE,  while sitting  
near a window. There is nothing  
in the barracks on which I might  
write - we don't even have  
footlockers! And that reminds  
me: I'll probably begin to clean  
odd + ends of things home. I have  
too much to do 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 bed  
Sunday morning. Chow call  
was 20 minutes ago - but I  
felt so low I didn't answer it.  
I'll wash 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 <sup>etc.</sup> 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. Always,  
Honey



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.

Praying 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 Freddie is getting.

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

No comment on V.'s return.

Prayer now is to hope like  
you should take to sheets. See  
well & let you know. or soon as  
I can I'll tell you. Prayer now  
know me & not as the rest are  
destined by man's people. With me -  
I can only hope - I do hope - Pray'll keep  
them well. Love them.

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  
ship to a place no farther  
more distant from Washington  
than N. Y. C.  
and I am ecstatic 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  
Wells