

CAMP HANCOCK.

Augusta, Ga.

December 16th, 1917.

Dear Mother and Dad;

Just received your letter in which you mention about my box. It is very kind of you to send it to me. You also made a wise precaution by sending it early as the mails certainly do get congested and over loaded. On other page I have discribed fully all about the furlough dope.

Received a nice letter and finger nail set from Emily Lenartz. She has been a good friend to me since I have been down here.

I suppose you are preparing for Christmas. One thing certain I know you will have a tree trimmed because I expect to be home and am anxiously awaiting our family gathering. I believe this week I will receive a new suit of woollens so expect to look nice to come home. I just finished cutting some wood, because it is still very cold here, and washing some of my clothes in warm water which was heated up at the kitchen. We had a good dinner to-day. Mashed potatoes, baked ham and pineapple, bread, jam and cocco. Pretty good meal.

From last week, beginning, we are to train 16 more weeks. Looks as though we are staying. Look other page over carefully. H.

This is the latest news in furloughs and is the absolute facts. Every man who has not had a furlough and whose record is clean will get a furlough providing he can show \$45.00 for a return ticket. They are to take place, some on Christmas and Some on New Years. My record is clear except for one thing. About three weeks ago I failed to hear the first call in the morning and thereby missed revillie, I was soaked 15 days in camp. This does not go against me as I had first feared. Sargent Little said it was not against me. Please send me another money order for \$15.00 so as I can show my Captain \$45.00 for round trip ticket. Please send this at once in case I am called up in answer to my furlough. I will either be home for Christmas or New Years either one, but will have seven days at any rate over one of the Holidays. So keep up courage once again we will be united. and have a heart to heart talk. You certainly can send my underwear and also a bottle of cold cream or some menthalautum, for my lips are very chafed.

Will close now and will let you know when I receive the box. With love to all, I am

Your loving son,

Howard