

Monday, Nov. 9, 1942

Dear Mother and Daddy,

Fred came up again yesterday and I was mighty surprised to see him. He didn't think he could come up this week because they are working so hard and he usually comes on Monday, anyway. Things couldn't be going better and I couldn't be happier. We're convinced that he has the best job in the entire army of the United States. This week he may be assigned to convoy duty. He scared me yesterday by saying, "Did I tell you that I'll probably be leaving camp this week on convoy duty?" But that means that he will be assigned to accompany a shipment of men from Camp Dodge to whatever camp they've been assigned to. Sort of chaperon them along the way, see that none of them get sick, etc. Then Fred will come back. Just think, he'll be able to travel all over the United States---and come back. Some troops go as far as Fort Ord, Washington, and some just go to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. All the non-combatants are assigned to convoy duty sooner or later and his turn is coming up. I'm so glad for him because he'll like it but if he takes troops out several times a month and has to take them way out to either coast, he won't be able to come up to Ames very frequently.

The Home Ec. Ball is this Saturday and I have a ticket in the hopes that Fred may possibly be able to come up. Of course, if he's sent out this week, I'll sell it, but if he's not sent out until later, and doesn't have to work Saturday night, maybe he can get up. He said that yesterday afternoon nearly 400 men were run through the Infirmary. They are busier than ever now because the furloughs the men get between their final physical and induction have been changed from 14 days to 7 days. Fred also may get a 3-day pass for Thanksgiving and if he does he'll go home. He hopes to get up to St. Cloud to see us if he gets a Christmas furlough. However, I feel that he should spend most of his time at home.

What do you know about these rumors that, after Jan. 1, no travel will be permitted unless a person plans to spend more than 1 month in a certain place? That will cut down Fred's weekly visits here to nill.

There doesn't seem to be any other news except Fred! My days are all the same. I go to classes, am getting good grades, work on the Student every Thursday night, go to First Aid class every Wednesday night. I have an occasional date with someone else on the week end but most of the time I get caught up on my work. The more I go out with other men, the more I appreciate Fred and realize that there's more to him than meets the eye. He's changed so much since August.

Saturday night we had a surprise birthday party for Kay Howorth and Mary Ellen Sullivan. We ordered a big cake from a bakery downtown and had grape juice and ginger ale and Ritz crackers and cookies.

What did you think of the pictures? They weren't too good but turned out pretty well for a dark day.

I have a little money left over and am going to try to get an inexpensive wool dress here in Ames. I also need a brown skirt desperately but need a dress worse and maybe I can hold out

until Christmas. I have to go to so many teas and dinners and committee meetings now. Oh, I didn't tell you, I'm now junior representative to Home Economics Council in my capacity as vice president of the Women's Tech. Journalism club. The president is senior representative. Here I am holding two offices in the Home ec. club and am not now and never have been a member-I've never paid any dues!

Can you please send me more of that salve for my eyes that Dr. Wenner gave you? Thanks. Got any ideas for magazine articles?

Love,
Virginia.