12:00 A.M. E.T.
Fort Lee, Va.
Sunday.

Dear Audrey:

Well, it is 9:00 A.M. Pacific coast time but I'm waiting for the bugle for our noon meal, which will be chicken.

Just got back from church. Will enclose the program. The Chaplain was evidently a Baptist from the way he shouted once in awhile, however, the Baptists are not the only ones that shout

12:30

Yep, it was chicken, bread dressing, lettuce salad, corn, mashed potatoes, tea, and peaches. All very good. Much better than at the Fort.

To continue from church. As we came out the door one of the fellows that has been here for awhile was just ahead of me. (He had sat in front of me at church) He told the chaplain "Sir, this fellow can

really sing. I sat in front of him and he really gives out."
The Chaplain asked me to sing tonight but I told him I would rather do it some other time. I still have a slight cold and don't sound too good - although I could have done better than the fellow that sang this morning. He had a good voice, but needed more practice, or something.
Some more new fellows came in last night. Mostly New Yorkers. Between the southern accents and the New York brogues, I'm sure a stranger boy in a strange town, but I find people are pretty much alike regardless of where they come from.
Of this group, a large number of them had ex - postal clerks and some are operators of I.B.M. business machines that will interest Graham.

He could probably get a pretty good rating along those lines unless they are all taken when he gets in.

There is a feeling among the fellows here that was lacking at Lewis. The older fellows don't give you the razz like they did up Nawrth (S. accent) They are more helpful. Like to talk to you and tell you what to expect.

We have a Sergant and three Corporals in the barracks. The Sgt is plenty tough. He was here when I came in but left on a pass before the other boys came in. The Corporals are also tough and want you to jump when they say "Everybody Out." We were slow in getting out to mess call at noon, so he sent us back in and gave us 30 seconds to clear the building. We made it in 25.

Another beautiful day, but cool enough to be invigorating. I hope it stays this way for the next 7 weeks while we are having basic.

Training starts a week from tomorrow and lasts for 6 weeks. This next week we will be doing plenty of K.P. and landscaping — digging ditches.

The boys say that during the last two weeks of basic you don't even have time to write letters. However, I can go into the latrine after 9:30 and dash off a few lines, Hon.

Please write often, Audry. It is as lonesome as — here. The proper address is

Pvt. H. H. Brindle, #39360004
Co. L, 12 Q.M. TR, T-334
Camp Lee, Va.

I hope you will tell me about everything you've be doing since I left you Sunday.

Love
Harold.

5:15 P.M.

The other letter isn't sealed yet so I'll just continue on.

You see, Butch, I miss you so darned much that it about drives me nuts, in fact it wouldn't even be a drive – just a short putt. When I write I feel I'm almost (very big one) talking to you.

I don't know how much it costs to call Portland but if it isn't too gosh awful much I'll probably being making an attempt to do so next Saturday night – you should have the letter by then. I'll do it at 7:00 o'clock – your time – which will be 10:00 o'clock here. Something

might happen to prevent it and it may take some time to get it through, but I'll try, Hon, if it doesn't cost too much.

It is going to be a mighty lonesome Thanksgiving for both of us, Hon, and I can't even bring myself to think about Christmas.

But to a more cheerful subject. (I just wanted you to know you have an A-A-A H-I-I priority in my life Hon. [The Army is A-A-A-A H-I-I but not to me])

Been out playing softball and football in this Virginia sunshine all afternoon. Really worked out. I find I can still keep ahead of most of them.

Going over to the Chapel tonight at 7:00. They have kind of a social gathering on Sunday night.

Find out Willard and Fern's address, and telephone number, for me if you can. I ~~g~~ can't get up there but I might call them sometime.

Have you received any of your allotments yet, Hon? The first time I can get any leave we will use that money and perhaps we can get together in Chicago. You might have to fly back so don't be surprised if you get rather short notice about it. But don't expect anything like that until after Christmas.

One of the boys just got off K.P. and he said we were either going to dig ditches or do K.P. the next week.

The rumor is that the Government doesn't take the $22.00 for allottment out of our 1st months pay, but they give the first $50.00. They will be fine if it's true and I'll have $34.00 coming Dec. 1 instead of $12.00.

It is 6:15 now, Hon, but only 3:15 where you are. I've been talking with one of the boys from Oklahoma. We are going to church together. I'd better get shaved and cleaned up.

Love,
Harold.