4:35 P.M. Cen Time
Friday
1½ hours out of Chi

Dear Andy:

What a day! Spent 2 hours in our (Ag Stat) Chicago office being shown around by the boss and his assistant. They have 60 or 70 employees there.

When I made reservation for the Wm. Tell the girl put another ~~G.H.~~ and me in a drawing room! I told her the tickets called for uppers but she gave us the slip calling for section 6 in car 582, and so we took it.

We got on the train and rode in the drawing room, trying out all the gagets, until the pullman conductor came along.

We both laughed about it - He said too much new help - and chased us up front where we belonged. It was fun while it lasted - but too lonesome.

The other fellow was feeling good - they sell drinks over the bar here - and was too talkative so I'm glad we moved.

After we got into Chi at 9 A.M. I went over to the U.S.O. and had a shower, also got a good haircut and shine. Had lunch, ham-sam. and coke, for 10¢ at Depot U.S.O. then went to the Ag. office

Now we are rolling S.E. on a streamliner at about 60 per. Have a seat

with a Major - Air Force. doesn't look tho though he is going to be very good company. Reads too much.

So far this country looks a lot like the Salem and Woodburn - Hubbard vicinity. Heat and many oaks growing near the edge of the fields. Towns look dirty and houses need painting

I hope you got the letter I mailed at Ukiwankie - the air-mail special. I'm very anxious to hear from you, Hon, and want to know all about the things you have been doing. Better send your letters air mail.

All for now.

4:40 P.M. East time
Camp Lee, Va.

Well, we are really in the army now, Hon. There is no doubt about it in my mind. From what the boys that have just completed training say, this is a plenty tough place.

I'm the first of a bunch of new recruits they expect to move into the barracks today. I got first choice of beds and first choice of footlockers.

The weather today is just what you would expect to find in the South - clear and warm. I'd bet I lose those forty pounds before I get out of here.

Guess I'd better take up where I left off yesterday. I went to bed about 8 and read the "Life". Didn't get up until nearly 8, but couldn't get much sleep.

We got into Wn. DC at 9 and I left at ten, arriving at Petersburg at 1:10.

Tried to call C. J. Helstemea but apparently he hasn't reached Wn. yet. Also looked for Lazarus in the phone book but couldn't find them.

From Wn to Petersburg I rode in an <u>old</u> coach. It still had the <u>old</u> lighting fixtures in it, and a coal stove.

People were jammed in - many standing. They couldn't turn the heat off in our car so we roasted for three hours.

I could sure tell I was in the South from the number of negroes we passed - and the old shoes they wore.

When I got into Petersburg I couldn't find my barracks bag. I'd checked it at Chi.

I sure hope it shows up. All the boys I've talked to so far are amazed to think they shipped me East from Lewis. I'm beginning to wonder whether or not I'm going to care for it too.

Petersburg didn't look like much from what I saw of it, which was very little.

The boys say they get week-day passes until 11:00 PM and week-end passes from 5 Sat until 11:00 PM Sunday night, but they can't go to Washington D.C. Damn!

Anyhow, I'm confined to a certain area for a week. All new men are guaranteed the first week. Can't even go over to the Canteen.

It's time to eat, and believe it or not all I've had since last night was a roll and coffee in Wn. D.C. Lord, I'm starved.