

20 May 1945

Dear Mom,

I haven't done much writing to you this week, but I've been pretty busy. We've been on the rifle range all week for target practice. Get up at 4:00 & get back in between 5:15 & 6:15 most of the time with a 3 mile walk each way (or about that far). We rode back in trucks one night & was supposed to last night as we didn't quit til 6:30 but the Trucks didn't show up for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour & we started walking. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way back they came along so we ~~waited~~ ^{rode} the rest of the way in. We also went out this morning

but quit at 12 noon & got to
ride both ways. That's all of
that I think but there's
no telling what's next. It's
been pretty darn hot here lately
although it was plain cold
& n. night. It was pretty cool
this morning but is plenty hot
now.

I didn't exactly forget Hazel's
birthday but there's nothing
to get here & very few cards of
any kind & they're at the main
P.O. I ended up by not doing
anything. I guess I'll like Cheshire
or else by the time I get out of here.
They've had in nearly every
year, including today & always
with rice. I can eat it better
than I used to - maybe because
I'm ^{more} hungry, but I still

proper other things. we still haven't had any fish since I've been here.

I think you asked once if I had any pictures made here. I did once - you know those picture machines - but they looked awful. I could hardly recognize myself & I know you wouldn't want it. It just doesn't exactly look like me. you can have a camera here by getting permission, but so far I haven't seen any films at all. They say they have them occasionally at the main PX but I go there only once every week or two & I've never seen any there. If there are they're

gone long before I get there &
The Camera would be no
good without films.

I still think you all are
looking for Bob too soon. I'd
say it would be a couple of
mos. before he got back at
the least.

\$500 isn't too bad for
houses these days & I guess if
you're going to buy one you
might as well get started
paying on it.

on the range I shot 167 out
of 210 possible points each bulls
eye counts 5, next circle 4, 3, 2, 0.
That wasn't too bad but
I'd like to have done better 167 is
just over the line for sharpshooter
with the highest (expert) being
from 180 to 210.

one afternoon we had a pretty
 strong wind, a little gusty, and
 I didn't do so hot then. Just
 couldn't hold the rifle on the
 target for it. We have the M-1
 or Garand rifle. It's got an awful
 recoil, but doesn't kick very
 much. It seems to be mostly
 upward & then if you have a
 good position will settle down
 on the target again. We also
 shot the carbine a little. It
 hasn't any more kick than a
 .22 + I doubt if it weighs as much
 although it ^{Probably} seemed light to me
 in comparison with the 9½ lb
 rifle we've been carrying. The
 M1 clip holds 8 bullets & the
 carbine 15. Both are semi-auto-

matic - after loading all you
have to do is pull the
Trigger.

That's all of interest now.

Love
Jack