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Jack P. Bell World War Two Correspondence #152

Jack P. Bell

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Keywords
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Darling,

This will be a short letter, but sweet I hope.

It will have to be short because we're going on a hike
tomorrow at 8:15. I don't know how far we're going. I'll
tell you about it in tomorrow's letter.

Tomorrow is graduation day. Basic training is the
next step will be specialists training. If I make out
as well on that as I have on the basic I won't be too
far behind the ball. I got a grade of 94 on a map
reading test I took yesterday. That was out of a possible
100. We had a chemical warfare test today. I wouldn't be
surprised if I got 100 on that.

That nice table rice sounds interesting. Tell me
some more of the questions you asked. Here's hoping that
this mess will be all over in eight months or less, much
less.

It's cool here. A lot of the fellows are putting on their
John's (wool underwear) since had my heavy undershirt
on all day. This weather reminds me a lot of Ohio. Nice and
warm one day. Cold or rainy or both the next.

I got a letter from Chuck today. He thinks you are
top flight. He said if he could get me as good a
sister as I got him, he'd be doing all right. I hope Chuck
gets a good wife. He's a swell kid.

Oh yes! This is important. I got paid today. $13.27. It's
about a half months pay with two months insurance taken out.
No dependency allowance taken out this time. Set me know
when you get your first check. It probably won't be for another month. Maybe longer. Can you make things go all right on your wages, darling? Tell me how things are going. How much are the electric, gas and water bills? Is the grocery bill smaller since I left? Am I money? But I'm still interested in our little home even if I'm not there.

I'm an awful forgetful guy. I bought a card one mile last week to send to Pa and Aunt Calie. I had it in my pocket and before I got to write and mail it, it was all crumpled. I'll get another one tomorrow night if I can, and write it right away and mail it. How are the folks, honey? Do they still play poker on Sunday nights? They both enjoy that. Your Dad could make a fortune around here the next few days. These boys have just been paid, and it's burning a hole in the gamblers' pockets. There's a pretty fidgety game going on in the bunk Jim leaning against.

Well, baby, I guess I'll be saying so long till tomorrow.

All my love to my darling honey.

Yours always,

Jack
Pvt. J.P. Bell          Free
78th. Sig. Co.  A.P.O. 78
Camp Butner, N.C.

Mrs. Jack Bell
345 W. River St.
Elyria, Ohio
April 14, 1943

Darling,

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Well, baby I guess I’ll be saying so long till tomorrow. Note the new way to address my letters. It’s on the envelope. All my love to my darling honey.

Yours allways [sic],

[[underscore]] Jack [[/underscore]]