



UNITED STATES ARMY

Saturday

1:15 PM

Sept 23, 1944

Dear Mom and Pop,

I just received your letter of Sept 20. It left Salt Lake on the 21st, so it only took two days to come.

Today, we had a very interesting lesson. We went to the chemical warfare class to learn about smoke bombs, tear gas, mustard gas and phosgene gas. After the lecture the officers set off some different colored gases (smoke) and they sure were pretty. This type of gas has no ill effects and it's used for screening and signals. All colors - red, yellow, violet, blue, green, etc. Next they set off some harmful gases as mustard, phosgene, leucite, and we all took a little sniff to see how it smells. Boy, it sure stinks! Next, we were taught how to use our gas masks. Now comes the interesting part. They took us into the gas chamber to see how it feels.



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We first went into the gas chamber with our gas masks on. The chamber is filled with tear gas so it cannot harm you. You only cry. It doesn't ever make you choke or anything.

After the first time we went in, the second time we went in, we had our masks off. When every body is in the chamber, the door is closed and the gas is let in. The first one to smell the gas, yells out GAS! and every body hurriedly puts on his mask. Tear gas has a slightly sweet smell to it. This is to teach you to put your mask on fast when you smell gas.

The lesson was very interesting. When the warning came for gas, I was so fast putting on my mask, I didn't even get a whiff of the gas. I never moved so fast in my life.

Some of the boys got a little of the gas, so they were crying after they got out. The crying is just like when you cut



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onions. We're through for today as we're going to loaf around. I think we'll go to the movies tonight.

We don't know yet but we might get a pass tomorrow. Well, I'll finish this letter tonight.

7:10 PM

Well, I'm back again. We just came back from the PX. I had a malted milk and bought this week's Life and Collier's.

We haven't been to the show yet, but we're starting out now. Gee, we get all the good movies here before the civilians see it. Tonight, we're going to see Sweet and Low Down with Benny Goodman and his orchestra. There's a lot of movies in camp and all have good pictures. This is one thing good about the Army, good movies.

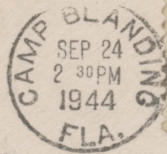
Well I'll write again tomorrow.
Jad

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Pvt TAD ISHIDA 389 32612

Co D - 208 BN - 12TC

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA



VIA AIR MAIL

MR + MRS Y ISHIDA
1434 CIRCLE WAY (3)
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

(20) Tuesday Sept 26, 1944.