

Monday 5:45 AM



UNITED STATES ARMY

Oct 9, 1944

Dear Mom and Pop,

We got up early this morning because we're going out to the range today. This means we're going to shoot our rifles.

I forgot to mention in yesterday's letter that I got a letter from Aunt Tomi. I received your letter too.

At the moment, I'm waiting for the whistle to blow. I already have eaten and made my bed so I'm ready to go.

I'd like to ask a favor. When you get the chance, send me some air-mail envelopes, will you? I'm running out.

Last night we went to see "Marriage is a Private Affair" with Lona Turner. It was very good.

I don't have much more time to write so I'll write more tonight when I get back.

9:00 PM

I'm back again. I received two of your letters today.

We had a busy day today. As I said before we went out to the rifle range today. We left the area around 6:30 AM and walked to the range. It was about 3 miles



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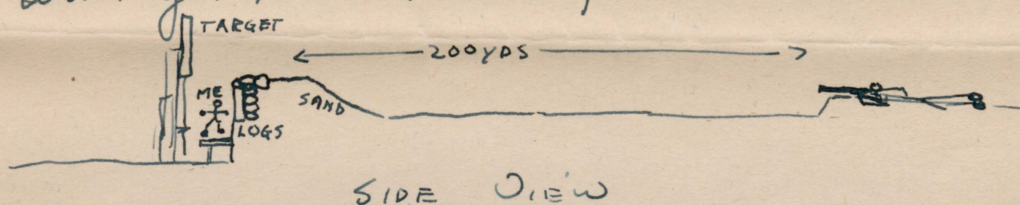
but it was still cool so no one was tired when we reached there. We were the first ones to shoot. The target is 200 yards away. We fired from the prone (laying down) position, sitting position, standing, kneeling, and squatting position. It was a big thrill to fire our rifles for the first time. It sure has a big kick to it. Every time you fire the rifle it jumps up from your hand and jerks your shoulder back. This makes your head bounce up too. After shooting all morning everybody's ears were ringing. Matter of fact, it's still ringing. I made a score of a 130 out of 140 which is very good considering it's the first time. I wanted to save some shells I fired to send home but I didn't have a chance. The shells are the empty cases after you fire the rifle. I thought Freddy or Tommy would like to have them. Anyway, we still have one week of range, so if I get a chance I'll try to get some and send them home.

In the afternoon, our group went to the target pit. This is the place where the targets are changed. About 200 yards from the firing line, there is a tiny



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mound or hill of sand and the pit is behind this with the target. We get behind the hill and pull the targets up. This way we won't get hurt. Here's a picture.



This is a rough idea of it.

Was it funny in the mess hall today. After we come home from the range, every body wasn't able to hear very good because we listened to rifle fire all day. Well, after we got in to the mess hall, I was sitting with Ted and Shiro Yamoto. I winked to ~~Shiro~~^{Shiro} and said to Ted, "Hey, Ted, what was that" --- I trailed off my voice after this and just moved my lips. Ted thought I was still talking and he says, "what? what? I can't hear you. Talk louder." Then Shiro says "Hey, Ted, about that" --- He, too, trails off his voice



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and just moves his lips as if he's talking. Ted just says, "what? what? We had a fit in the mess hall. Everyone was laughing and Ted didn't know what it was all about."

Well, I still have to take a shower and lights out is pretty soon so I'll write more tomorrow.

Ted

P.S. Say hello to everybody for me.

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

PVT TAO ISHIDA 38932612

Co D-208 BN 12TC

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA



VIA AIR MAIL

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

(36)

Oct. 12. 1944
Thursday

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DATE _____
TIME _____
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