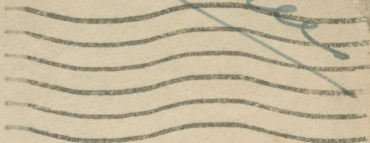


Cpl. M.B. J. Jr.
A.S.N. 35629628
A.T.C. 387 Inf.
A.P.O. 445 U.S.A.
Camp Swift Texas!

CAMP SWIFT
SEP 25
11 30 AM
1943
TEXAS



Miss Margaret Applegate
R. R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana

Wednesday

Received
September

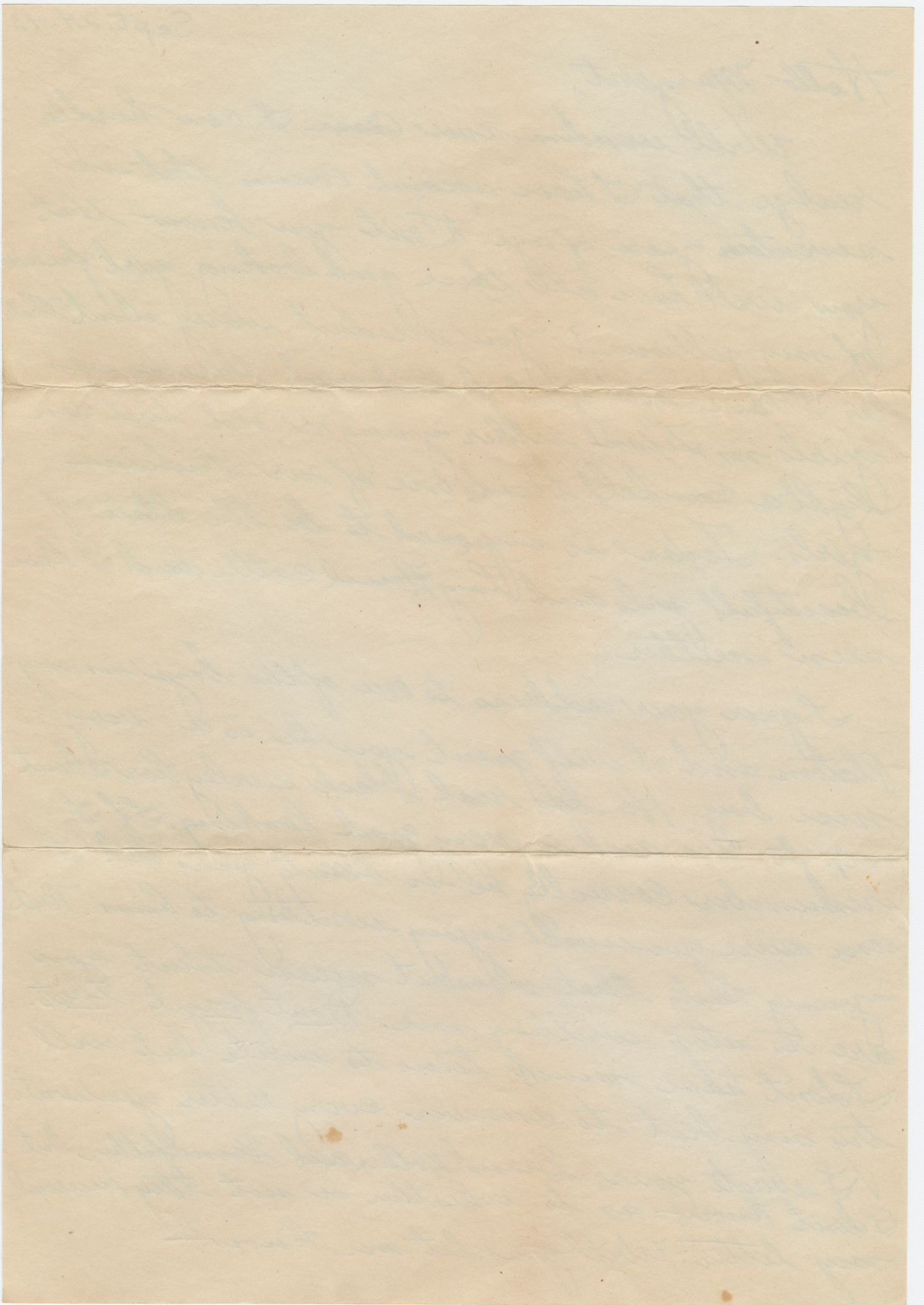
27, 1943

Sept. 24. 43

Hello Margaret.

Will wonders ever cease I can hardly realize that I have second Cousin that is seventeen years of age. Dont you know that you will have all these good looking girl friends of my jillions? you neednt worry about that as I have no girl friend and there is no girls in Texas either young or old that can light a candle beside one of our Indiana girls. Texas is supposed to be the State of beautiful girls and Long Horned cattle and I have seen neither.

I gave your address to one of the boys in my Platoon and I will grant you he is a very nice boy. He has real black curly hair about six ft. two and is very good looking. If I remember correctly he is twenty years old. I am sure you will enjoy writing to him. But young lady that doesnt mean that you are to stop writing me. Dont forget that. I dont have much time to write but will try my best to answer every letter you write. I wrote your Grand Mother and Grandfather but I dont know as to whether or not they received my letter. Will you let me know?



I recieved a letter from your Uncle Bob but he never gave me his return address so I havint been able to answer his letter. Will you send me their address. Nobody wanti to send me their return address but you.

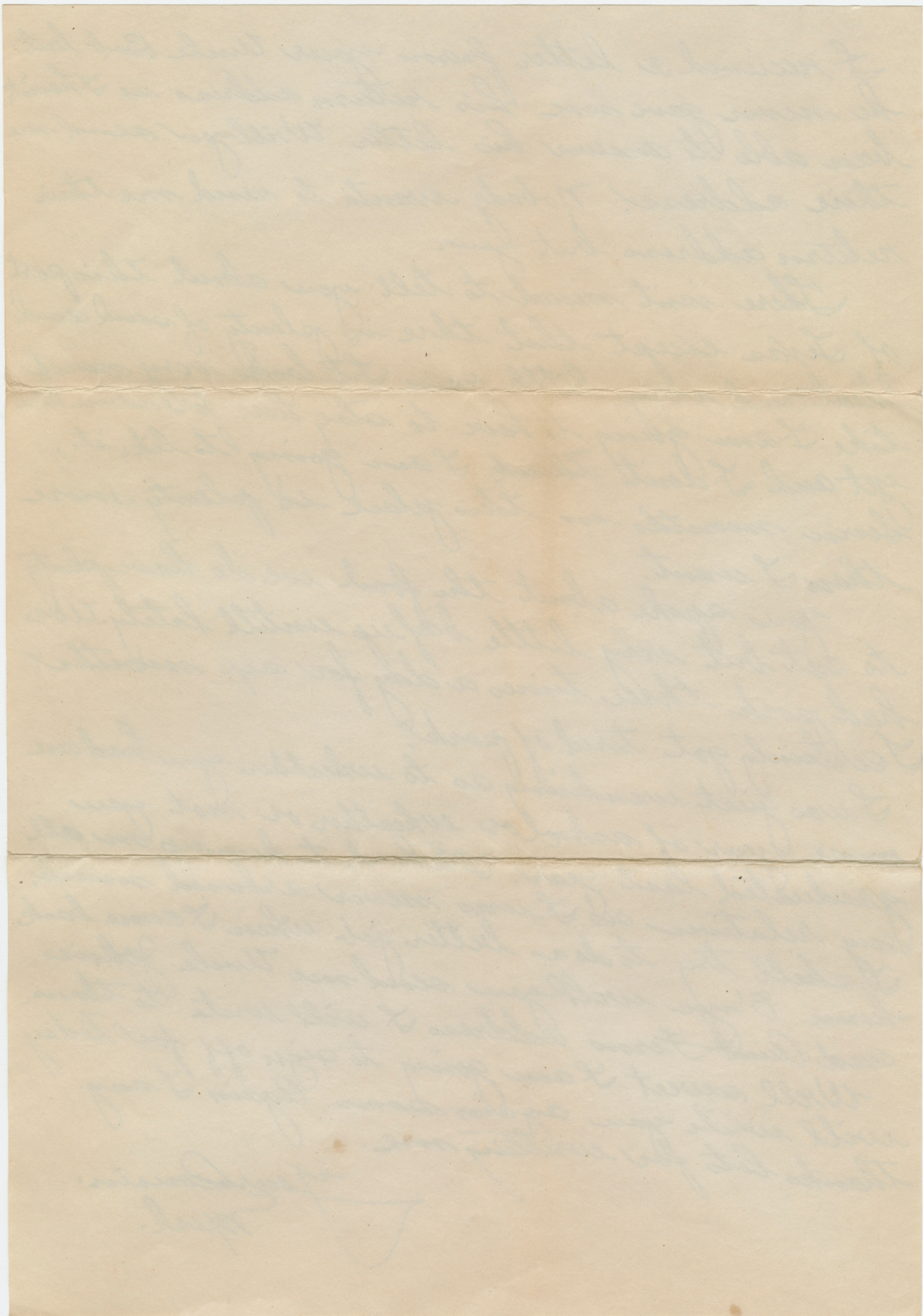
There isnt much to tell you about this part of Texas except that there is plenty of sand and heat and very little rain. It looks very much like I am going to have to stay here for some time yet and I dont think I am going to like it. Seven months in this place is plenty more than I want.

you spoke about the food we do have plenty to eat but very little beef up untill lately. We had pork three times a day for six months. I certainly got tired of pork.

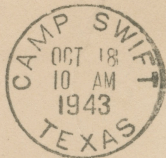
I was just wondering as to wheather you had one more year of school or wheather or not you graduated last year. Its hard to keep up on all my relatives as I was never around much. I shall try to do a better job when I come back home. O'ys will you send me Uncle John's and Aunt Ferns address I will write to them.

Well sweet I am going to sign off for today will write you again soon. Again I say thanks lots for writing me.

Your Cousin
Merl.



Cpl. M. B. Jeffers. A.S.N. 35629628
A.T. Co 387 Inf.
A.P.O. 4459 Postmaster.
Shreveport Louisiana.



Free

Miss Margaret Applegate.
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis (44)
Indiana

Received
Wednesday, October

20, 1943



CAMP SWIFT
TEXAS

Oct. 18. 43
Sun. Eve.
12:20

Dear Margaret.

Just a note today as I haven't much time these days to write. I also wanted to send you my new address. Still more I want to thank you for the last letter recieved also for those addresses. For a Cousin you are very sweet and maby some day when I grow up to be a big fellow I shall ask you to marry me. Ha! Ha!

How's you Dad getting along with his decerating by this time. Purtying every thing and every one up. Tell him that he can fix my house up some day. If I ever get a house.

We are moving out of here some time this week headed for the swamps of Louisiana. What a nasty few months that's going to be. This is all for today Margaret will write again soon as I want to get every body I can a note and haven't much time to do it in.

Along. your Cousin
Merl.

over

Cpl. M. B. Jeffers.

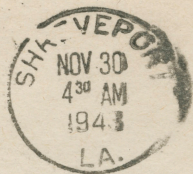
A.S.N. 35629628.

A.T. Co. 387 Inf.

A.P.O. 445 c/o Postmaster.

Shreveport Louisiana.

Opel. M. B. Jeffers. A.S.N. 35629628
A.T. Co. 387 Ind.
A.R.O. 445 % Postmaster
Shreveport Louisiana



Miss Margaret Applegate
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana.

Received
December 21, 1943

Hells Sweetheart.

Nov. 28-43

Sat. Eve.

In. the Swamps

I received your letter yesterday and was very pleased to receive it. I am sorry though that I have been neglecting you. You will forgive me this time wont you? We have been very busy and as usual I am way behind on all my correspondence. I will try and do better in the future.

I gave those girls addresses to a couple of the boys and I think that they wrote them. Any way they said they did. I dont imagine that they would be much interested in an old man like your Cous. so will stick to my two best girls you and Marion. Although I am afraid that I am going to lose you as Les seems to have things very well in hand. He is a swell kid and I dont feel to badly about it. Ha! Ha!

If you are able to read this letter when I get through with it yours going to be lucky. To be able to read it yours going to have to get into every position that I have gotten into sense starting this letter. Try writing a letter in a pup tent some time any you will find it very hard to do. Any position that you get into is very much a strain unless you ar flat on your back or tummy and then you cant see.

Say do me a favor will you? Send me your Uncle Bob's address again. I lost it and I am ashamed that I have not written him before now.

At present it is raining out side and it feels rather cozy to be inside listening to the rain on the tent. Make one sleepy. I hope that it stops before tomorrow-nite as we go out on a proplein and will have no tent up to get into.

Mother and Dad are going to quit farming as Dad isn't able to do all that hard work any more. In fact neither of them are. They have already sold most of there stock and rented the farm but are keeping the house as is. It's about time that they were stoping some of that hard work that they have been doing.

Tell your Grandmother and Grandfather that I said hello also all the rest maly I shall see them all when I come home on furlough when ever that may be.

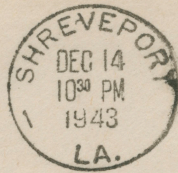
you dont mind if I call this at an end for toite do you I will try and write you as much more interesting letter next time

your boy.
Merl.

Cpl. M. G. Jeffers. A.S.N. 35629628.

A.T.C. 387 Inf.

A.P.O. 445 % Postmaster
Shreveport, Louisiana



Miss Margaret Applegate
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana

Received
Dec. 18, 1943

Dec. 12. 43
Sun. In The
Swamps.

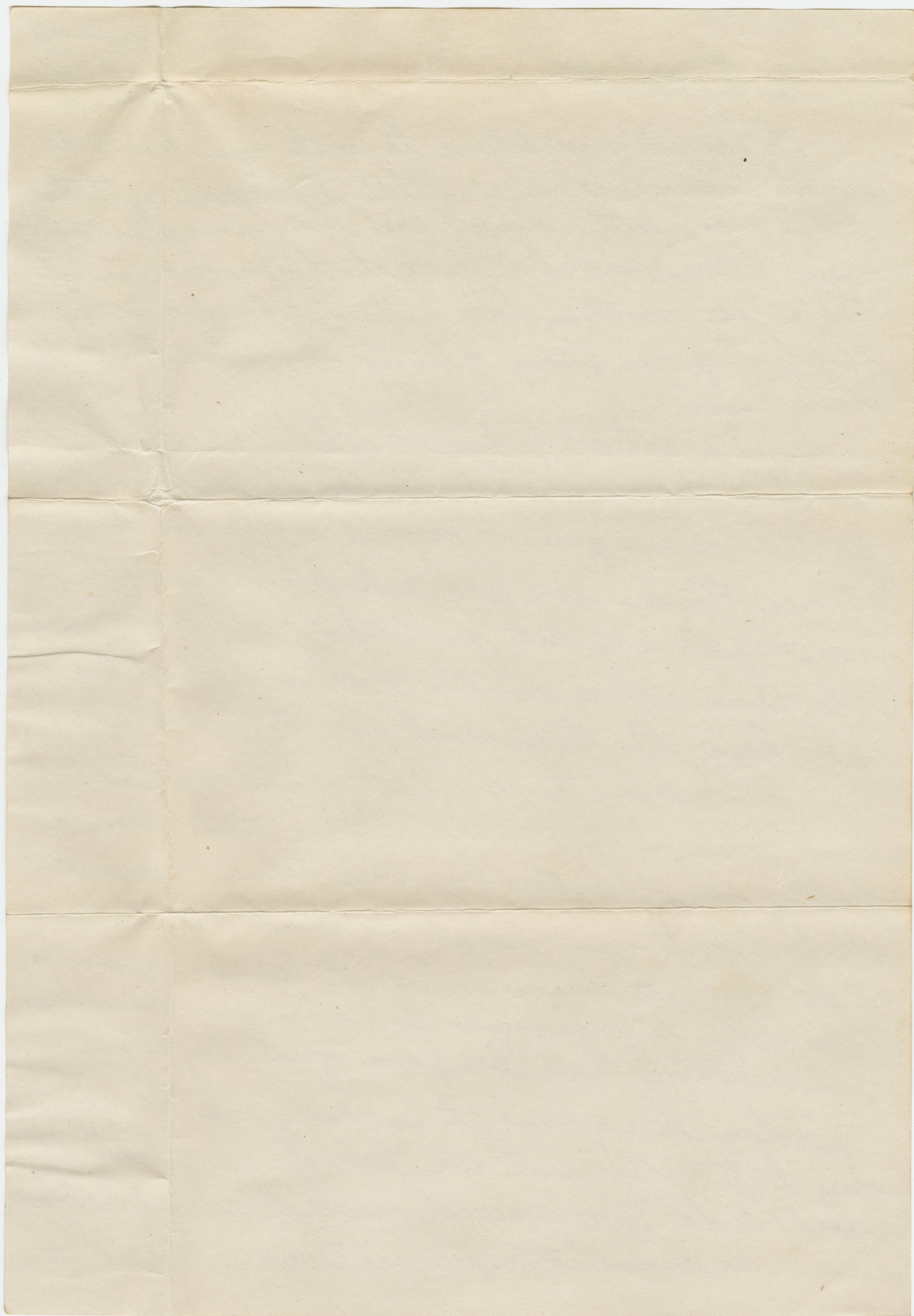
Hello Sweetheart

I haven't much time to write you but I do want to answer your letter I received yesterday. You my little flower are very prompt with your letters and I do appreciate them very much. There is nothing like getting lots of mail as they do keep one from getting lonesome. That is too lonesome.

You want to know what we did beside work and sleep in tents. As far as the tents go we don't get to much sleep in them. Some times we are out for as much as ten days with out putting up a tent. Just flop any where on the ground when ever we have the time and wait to sleep!

I am sorry to hear that your Mother hasn't been feeling any to well. I hope that she is feeling much better by this time. Margaret I don't expect you people to send me loles. I do appreciate them and don't know how I am ever going to repay you for what you have done. Your letters have been one great big help!

Today being Sun. it is really one beautiful day but as usual we have found plenty of work to do. We sawed several wooden blocks to use as simulated mines. We are to use them



in our next problem. Taking up and laying
mine fields happens ^{to be} our specialty. Some what
of a complicated mess but this is the Army and
those things have to be done.

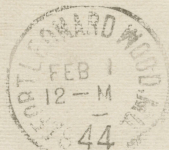
I received five dollars apiece from all the boys
at home for a Xmas present! Don't you think
that was rather a nice Xmas present! After this
I shall treat my Bros. much better. Although
I do appreciate the money a letter would make
me feel just as good. That is one thing I can't
understand. Every body at home feel as if they
owe us something I don't feel that way about
it. No one owes me any thing but a letter
now and then to let me know the news and
what's cooking. We don't even know how the
war is getting along. It could be over and
we wouldn't know any thing about it. We never
see a news paper or get any news! O' yes, you
asked me what we thought about the war and
when it will be over. Most civilians are very
optimistic about the war and are very wrong.
We expect to be still using the japs as
targets two years from now and I wouldn't
be afraid to bet that we aren't far wrong. Hitler
may take a back seat this spring but it will take
a long time to drive those rat japs back in their
holes and don't you think for one minute
that it won't! It might look very easy and

simple out side but from³ here it doesnt look
so good. Dont lit your mouth water for that fried
chicken untill you catch the chicken. After its all
over we will get up on that fence post and
Crow what?

Well sweetheart this is all the blarney that I
have for you today and I must get busy. Bye Bye!
for now

Love
your Cousin
Merl

Cpl. M. B. Jeffers.
A.S.N. 35629628.
A.T. Co. 377 Inf.
A.P.O. 445 U.S.A.
Fort Leonard Wood Mo.



Free

Miss Margaret Applegate.
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana.

Received
February 2, 1944.

Jan. 31, 44.
St Leonard Wood
Mo.

Hello Sweetheart.

Well! Well! Well and well yes it's me again. I bet you think or thought that I was never going to answer your last letter. I am very sorry dear lady but yours truly has been so busy that he hasn't had time or chance to write any one. Forgive me this time won't you? Promise never to let it happen again.

As you can very plainly see we have moved into our new home and speaking of home I am much closer to that little phrase on the wall which reads Home Sweet home. But I am afraid that it's not going to be for long. We are only here for a rest and furloughs and then a much longer distance from home. Some few what? I am looking forward to that trip very much. young lady don't ever let your Geo. or your Bro. tell you that La. is part of the sunny south. I was greatly surprised

and disappointed in La. I had all the rain,
Ice, and snow I wanted while there. I
don't think that I ever want to see that
State again. Any way under the same
rules and regulations, I will say this
though that La. is a beautiful State when
old baldy is doing here stough. Beautiful
pines and beautiful landscape.

Now to change the subject or rather state
as we shall now talk a little about Mo.
The Climate is something like Ind. and for
the past five or six days old baldy has
been strutting her stough. This Camp is
a very large Camp in fact the second largest
There are several other units of the army
here other than ours including three W.A.C.'s
units. Rather interesting don't you think?
We have a swell day room where we
can write letters, play pool, or Ping Pong.
Just three blocks away is a show and
a bowling alley. Just back of our Barricks
is a Church which I should go to but don't.
Shame on me!

Some time between now and the twenty
first of this month I will be getting a
furlough. You people might come over

for the week end that I am home as
I would like to see all of you. One
doesnt get to see ones Cousins very often
does one? I will write you and let you
know when I will be home. I would like
to stop in there if I only could have the
time but I think that I should spend all
the time with Mother + Dad that I can.
A person doesnt have a Mother + Dad forever
you know. And besides there pretty swell
people.

Les is writting some one a letter I dont
know who to though. He is a hard guy
to get at that buisness. He doesnt like
to write letters.

Well beautiful I bet your getting tired of
reading this prittle prattle so will sign
off for tonight ^{by} saying Good Nite and
please write.

I Remain just a poor
little Soldier boy. what like
lots of letters

My New Address.
cpl. M. B. Jeffers.
A.S.N. 35629628
A.T.C. 387 Inf.
A.P.O. 445 USA.

Ft. Leonard Wood. Mo.

Wheeler.

Received
8, 1944
Schwartz

A.S. N. 35629628.

Cpl. M.B. Jeffers
A.T. Co. 387 Inf. A.P.O. 4456, S.O.
Ft. Leonard Wood Mo.



Miss Margaret Opplegate
RR 12 Box 120.
Indianapolis 74
Indiana

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE



UNITED STATES ARMY

Hello. Beautiful

Feb. 6-44

This is just a short note
as I havent time just now for any
more ^{than} that.

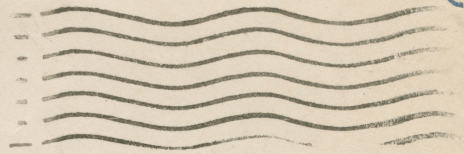
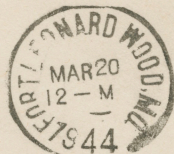
Thanks lots for the letter it had been
so long since I had received any that
I thought perhaps that you werint ever
going to write any more.

This is to tell you that I will be
home this coming week end. Tell
the folks to come over I want to see
them. I leave here the 9th and will
drive home the same day.

This is all for tonight Good
nite hope to see you all this next
week end.

Love,
our Cousin
Muel.

Sgt. M. B. Jeffers. A.S.N. 35629628
A.T.C. 387 Inf.
A.P.O. 4456 S.W.
St Leonard Wood Mo.



Free

Miss Margaret Applegate.
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana.

Received
March 21, 1944

March 20-44
Ft. Leonard Wood.



Hello Sweetheart.

I bet you think by this time that I have forgotten you people. But have been so busy that I haven't had time or chance to write any one. I received the letter that your mother wrote me also the pictures. They were swell. Thanks lots for those pictures as I do appreciate them very much and they are good pictures.

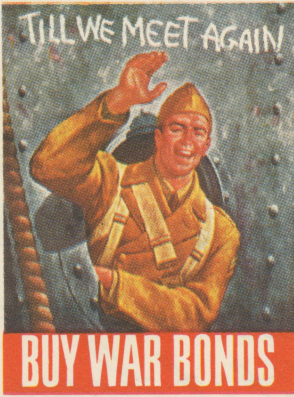
I asked Les yesterday when the last time was that he had wrote you. He told me that he was going to write you again this week end. He has also been pretty busy working in the supply dept. From seven in the morning until eleven and twelve at nite also week ends. So you can understand why he hasn't been writing as he should or would.

We have been sending out lots of men to different replacements centers and also have been getting several new men in to take there places.

So thats why all the extra work.
I have had to hold classes during the
day and at nite prepare for those
classes. Although I could have dropped
a card so I do really deserve catching
the dickens. Forgive me this time except
you I shall try and not let it happen
again.

This coming week I am expecting
Les. to be shipped out as I know that
his on the list but he doesnt know
it. I am sure going to hate seeing him
go because he is a very good friend to
me and I know that I am going
to miss him. There is a chance that
he might not go. Heres hoping that
he doesnt.

There isnt much to tell about here
as as we go through the same old thing
every day as we did back in Basin and
I think I have told you all about that.
So I am going to have to call this a day
will write you again very soon.
Love
Merl.



Sgt. M. B. Jeffers. A.S.M. 9628.
A.T.C. 387 Inf.
A.P.O. 4456 S.A.
H. Leonard Wood Mo.



Free

Miss Margaret Applegate.
R.R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis 44
Indiana.

SAN DIEGO

Received May 2, 1944

Hello Sweetheart.

April 30.44
Ft Leonard, Okla
Mo.

How's my little sweetheart this fine sun
shiny day? I bet she's out for a walk enjoying
this fine spring weather as only it can be
enjoyed. I recieved your letter the other day
and was very glad to get it as I do enjoy
your letters very much. If you dont hear
from me as often as you think you should
please dont stop writing. I will write every
time that I have the time and chance.

I suppose that you know that Les has been
shipped out for over seas duty. He left last
Mon. and I sure hated to see him go. We
tried every way in the world to keep him
from going but it did any good. In fact he
was acting as sgt. and was up for sgt's rating.
There are very few of us left, - that is of
the old outfit, - any more in fact about six.

This is a strange place any more so many
strange faces. Most all of the new faces are
boys that was turned back to the Inf. from
the Air Corps. They sure dont like that and
you cant much blame them.

Your some smart girl arent you getting
all those A's. I think you are doing very good
in fact all of you. Keep it up squirt you
will go places!

I hope you get to go to Butte this coming fall.
I think that will be swell. I know that you
can make the grade. Keep up the good work.

I havent recieved any mail from the Brooks
family for some time now I guess they must
have lost my address. I wrote Lloyd at Camp
Roberts Calif. but never recieved an answer as
yet. I guess he is to busy.

Some of the men are leaving here for the
flood area. I wish that I was going along. I
guess they think it will be to much for
me. ha! ha! 47.

This is all the time I have for now sweetheart
till all the rest that I said. Hells and good luck.
Elva never did write.

So By By.

Your
Merv.

