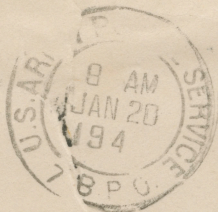
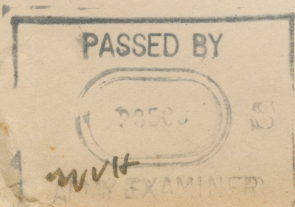


Sgt. W. V. Ashill 34671169
474 Photo Charting Sq.
A. P. O. # 565
40 P. M. San Francisco,
California



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



Received
January 25, 1945

1/

Jan. 17, 1945

Sgt. W. V. Ashill 34671169

47th Photo Charting Sq.

A. P. O. # 565

C/o P. M. San Francisco
California.

Dear Margaret,

I am writing you again tonight. Well it
isn't night yet. I didn't work this afternoon.
So I am writing plenty of letters. I wrote mother
and Dad. My Sister that is married. my Grandfather and
my cousin who came in the army in October 1944.

I got a letter from my back man today so
I wrote him too. I didn't hear from you today -
but I am hoping to hear tomorrow. Some
days. I don't get any mail from home and the
next day I get two. That is the way I get your
mail. Any time I get it I enjoy reading it.

Well Margaret, I cleaned up and shaved this afternoon
while it was raining. One thing over here there is plenty
of cold water over here but no hot water.

That is the reason I don't shave every day.
I just shave every two or three days.

Dear Mother
I received your letter
of the 10th and was
glad to hear from
you. I am well and
hope this finds you
the same.

Dear Mother

I am writing you now
and hope you are
well. I am well and
hope this finds you
the same. I am
well and hope this
finds you the same.

I am writing you now
and hope you are
well. I am well and
hope this finds you
the same. I am
well and hope this
finds you the same.

I am writing you now
and hope you are
well. I am well and
hope this finds you
the same. I am
well and hope this
finds you the same.

2/

I hafta take a bath every day. So I can sleep at night. My work is so dirty that no one can keep clean and do any work. if you sweat the least bit. a truck will come along on an airplane and stir up a lot of dust and then I look like a negro. Well I am almost as black as one. any way. Because I have had my shirt off. it is too hot to wear a shirt and work this so I just wear a short pair of trousers.

When I get back to the states you can see how brown I am. The sun doesn't burn so bad now. I bet you would love to see a little sun these cold days in Indianapolis wouldn't you.

I know if it was there I would.

I bet you have plenty of snow now. I wish I had some of it over here. But that is one of the things that is impossible.

Have you changed your mind Margaret. and decided to get married before the war is over. I bet you have some nice looking boy just waiting for you to make up your mind.

I hope you don't married when I get back to the states. Because I want to see you single.

3/

again. It has been over ~~the~~ a year and a couple of months. Since I saw you.

I hope it isn't that long before I see you again. I would like to go out on another halloweening with you and the children around there.

That was a night I never will forget. especially when we were trying to take the pump handle off. we never got it off. Well the next time we will get it off. Want we.

Margaret. I bet that pumpkin pie your mother made was good. I know she is a good cook. Because I ate some of her cooking. I know you a good cook too.

I bet you and your mother cant be beat on cooking. I wish I was where I could get a good meal back you and your mother cooks.

I wish I could be off here there to go and watch your school basketball team play. I know that you and your team will win.

I think this tent is a meeting place for the boys. There is about a dozen of them.

They ask me who I was writing to. I bet you cant get what I told them. Well I will tell you.

I told them I was writing to the prettiest girl in the world. So know they have gone so I can finish

[The page contains several paragraphs of extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.]

48/
writing my letter to you. I also told them that you
was the sweetest and the nicest girl that could be
found. That is what I thank.

Margaret, I went to the movie tonight.

The name of it was Mark of Zorro. It was a very
nice picture I really enjoyed it. I bet you ~~so~~ will when
you see it. Well I guess you have already seen it.
Havent you.

Here comes one of the boys over that was in
here before the show. Trying to keep me from writing
well he is in here at the same thing. He is going to
softly throw me out on his head. That is what I told
him but I want. Because he is a very nice boy.

He is from Georgia. He and I stick pretty close together
we have lots of fun when we are not at work.

In Mother's letter that I got today. She said that
there was a boy that lived near us was awol
from the army. Every body around there thinks he has
deserted the army. Well I wouldn't put it past him a bit,
he is one of that kind. Always in something where he has
no business.

Well I want a church member my self. At least
I want in every thing because I kept being doing something
my lobbie was going parson hunting in the winter

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, yellowed paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in several horizontal lines across the page.]

in the summer ~~to~~ back to so fishing and swimming
 when. There isn't any thing around the house I can
 help Mother do. Most of the time I am helping Father
 in the field when he was not at work in the mill.
 Well that is enough about that. Goodbye I know
 You don't enjoy hearing that.

Margaret, I started this letter about 3 o'clock this
 after noon. Every body that comes by the tent stops
 in to pick at me and to try to stop me from writing
 know it is 4 o'clock.
 Margaret, I am sure that you can win that basketball
 game if you try.

Margaret, I guess I had better close for now

hoping to get a letter from you tomorrow.

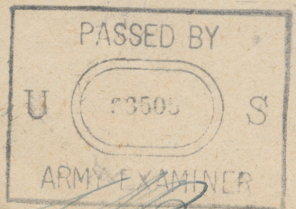
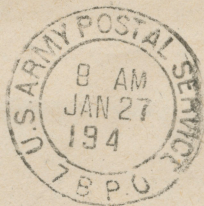
Will Mrs and Mr. Applegate hello for me and I would like
 to see them -

Love
 Vernon

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Love

Sgt. W. O. Ashell 3 + 671169
47th Photo Charting Sq.
A. P. O. # 565
Co. P. M. San Francisco.
California



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

Received
Feb. 1, 1945

Jan, 23, 1945
Sgt. W. V. Orbell 34871169
4th Photo Charlie Sq.
A. P. O. # 565
C/O P. M. San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Margaret,

Well Margaret, I am trying to write again tonight. George Mobley is over here again tonight

He is the boy from Georgie that I run around with. There isn't very much going around that we do over here except go to work together.

I didn't hear from you yesterday nor today. To tell the truth I didn't even hear from Mather and Dad. either.

I am hoping to hear tomorrow tho. Especially from you. I guess I would go crazy if I didn't hear from you every day or so over here.

I have got a half day off tomorrow. as far as I know now.

Wish I could be with you instead of lying in my bed until twelve.

We could go swimming if you were over here where the weather is nice and warm.

Back there it would be too cold to go swimming so we would have to go to a movie. Wouldn't we.

I went to a show tonight. The name of it was The Heat is on.

I guess you have seen it. This is my second time. Well over here I enjoy seeing any thing over to pass the time of day on.

Well Margaret, I hope you have decided to ~~write~~

Jan, 23, 1948
27. W. V. O'Connell
44 1/2 St. Charles St.
A. G. # 25
1014 M. San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Margaret,

Well Margaret, I am trying to write again

though. I hope I'm in over the again tonight
for in the day from things that I can count
with. You and my mother making sure that
we do our best except as to work together.
I don't know how you are getting on today.
To tell the truth I don't know how far Mother
and Bob will be.

I am trying to hear tomorrow the. I hope you
you. I don't want to say if I don't know how far
you every day or so over here.
I have got a half day off tomorrow.
as far as I know now.
What I could be with you instead of being
in my bed until further.
We could be remaining if you were over here
when the weather is nice and warm.
I don't think it would be so cold to go swimming
as we would like to go to a movie. Would it be
I want to a short tonight. The name of it
was the Heat in one.
I see you have seen it. This is my
recovery time. Well over but I enjoy being out
this one to have the time of day on.
Well Margaret, I hope you have decided to

iron my shirts for me. I am hoping so.

Margaret. I wish you could see the way I fixed up my tent today.

There use to be a dirt floor. Now I have a wood floor. I have made a place to keep my cloths to see if I can keep them dry.

I got me a magazine at the P.X. Today. I guess I can read it tomorrow morning.

That will help to pass the time off. until twelve then I hope to get a letter from you to cheer me up. because I will have to work tomorrow afternoon.

If I get a letter from you I can do better work dont you think so. I do.

Margaret. Tell the kids around that part of the country Hello for me and I will be back some day to go out ~~the~~ Holloween with them and I am hoping that you will be there to go with us.

It wouldnt be any fun if you want along.

Tell your Brother and Sister Hello and I would love to see them again before long.

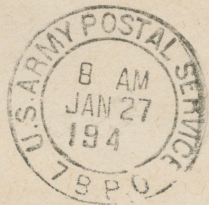
Margaret. I am waiting for that picture of you. I will send you one of me as soon as they will let us send them thru the mail.

They dont look so good. because I cant take a nice picture.

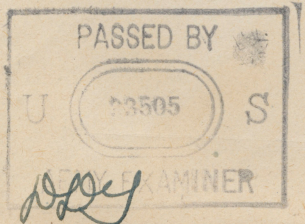
Well Margaret. I will close for now hoping to hear from you tomorrow. Whether you are going to iron my shirts for me or not. I am hoping you will.

Love
Vernon

Sgt. W. V. Ashill 34671169
4th Photo Coasting Sq.
A. P. O. # 565
C/o P. M. San Francisco, Calif.



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



Received
Feb. 1, 1945

Jan, 24, 1945
Sgt. W. D. Abhill 3469469
A. P. O. # 065
c/o P. M. San Francisco
California

Dear Margaret,

I am answering your letter tonight that I received today with the picture of you.

I think it is a nice picture.

I would like to ^{have} been there while they were taking it I would to off throw a snow ball at you just after they snapped the picture.

I bet you wouldn't let me throw snow balls at you would you. I bet you can throw snow balls faster than I can. I mean you would be throwing them at me. We don't have very much snow back in North Carolina. I remember when I was at home I threw snow balls at my father and sister when I could get them out of the house. The kids would cry. But father he would throw them back at me. There is a big hill in front of the house. I would let him get started down the hill and then get started throwing I him. Mother would come out on the porch and watch us.

The thing she look best was when father or me one would fall down or one of us get the best of the other.

Those were the days. Margaret, I hope they will come again and you can be there to help mother watch or help father and my sister throw them at me.

Margaret, I bet you throw snow balls at your father. Don't you. I bet he gets the best of you. Doesn't he.

I bet you do what Delora wants you to do. She would want you to put English walnuts in the fudge. Well anyway I bet it was good if you made it. I know you a nice cook.

No Margaret, I bet she didn't mind cracking the nuts for you I know I wouldn't. I would enjoy cracking them for you.

I bet you and Delora never argue with each other. Margaret, I use to argue with my sister to get her mad.

Then if there was any where she wanted to go I would topher her. Well it was all three four.

I know you getting tired of reading about me and the family. Aren't you.

Tell Margaret, I remember David. I thought he was a swell
boy. I will write him tonight too. I bet I surprise him
too. I dont know very much about the air force of the
Navy. If they are as bad as the regular air force. He will
have his hands full of headaches and weary.

The only time I have my mind off my work is when
I am writing to you or when I get a letter from you.

The boys that work with me. seem to know when
I get a letter from you.

This afternoon one of the boys said what is the matter
with you. You seem to be working harder and in better humor

well I know I give them hard times when I dont
get a letter from you. all this I know it is hard for you
to write every night and I dont expect you to. I know you
have to work too hard.

Margaret, tell Farrest to keep his good work up and
if he ever has to come into the army he will make a
better squadron leader than some of the fellows that our
squadron leaders know.

I hope he never has to come into the army. Because
I think he is too young. I hope by the time he is
old enough the war will be over. Dont you Margaret.

Tell all the folks hello for me. Margaret.

Well I will close for now. Love you

Love
Vernon

My dear Mother, I thought it was a small
thing, but I will write to you about it. I don't suppose you
will care to hear about the air force of the
country. If they are as bad as the regular air force, the will
lose his lands full of tobacco and wheat.

The only thing I have my mind off my work is when
I am writing to you or when I see the face of
the boy that work with me. I seem to know when
I get a letter from you.

You often come one of the boys and what in the world
with you. You seem to be working hard and in better humor
than I know to give the last time when I don't
get a letter from you. All the time I am hard for you
to write every night and I don't expect you to know you
help to work the land.

My dear Mother, I want to keep the good work you do
if the war lasts over in the camp. It will make a
little money. I don't know the name of the fellow that are
another teacher here.

I hope the war lasts over in the camp because
I think it is the best thing. I hope for the time to be
all except the war will be over. God bless you.
All the love I have for you, Mother.

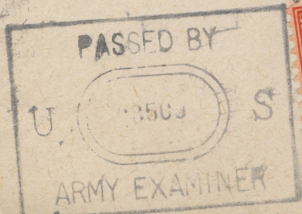
With love from your
son

John
Dunn

Sgt. W. U. Ashbill 32631169
4th Photo Clearing Sq.
A. P. O. # 567
Co P. M. San Francisco, Calif.



POSTAGE DUE 6c



Miss Margaret L. Applegate
R. R. 12 Box 120
Indianapolis Ind.
Indiana

Received
January 30, 1945

Sgt. W. V. Ashill 34671169
4th Photo Charting Sq.
A. P. O. # 565
C/O P. M. San Francisco,
Calif.

Dear Margaret.

Today is Sunday and I am answering your letter I got yesterday.

I sure was glad to hear from you.

I got up this morning about 7.30 o'clock. Went to eat breakfast. The mess hall was closed so I didn't get to eat.

I went back to my tent and went back to bed and sleep till twelve o'clock.

I am going to church this afternoon. Wish you was here to go with me. Oh Margaret. I don't wish you was here. I wish I was back there. Then we could go to a nice church.

Overse we have church in the same place we have a movie.

Well anyway it is some place to warshape and it. Margaret.

Mr. W. H. ...
A. B. ...
...

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter mentioned therein. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I will endeavor to do all in my power to rectify the same. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. H. ...

I bet they are working you plenty hard these days. I hope not tho.

I wish I could to off been there to see you pressing your skirt. I could to off aggravated you while you was at work. I bet you wouldnt look that would you.

Margaret, when I get back to the states I will let you press my shirts for me if you want to. ~~you~~

You may think I am feebing but I am not well by the time I get back to the states you will be found some nice young boy and he named.

I can still hope that you arent tho. Cant I Margaret.

Margaret, I am looking for those pictures you going to send me. I know they will be good.

I didnt know Rommel was dead. They had all bettes her dead by the time Americans Saldiers get to them. or they will be.

you Margaret, I think it wil end as soon as Hithls dies or gets killed.

Margaret. I have just got back from the swimming pool. just before I started writing this letter to you.

The water is nice and cool all the time.

Margaret, the water is nice and clear and clear all the time. It comes from back in the mountains

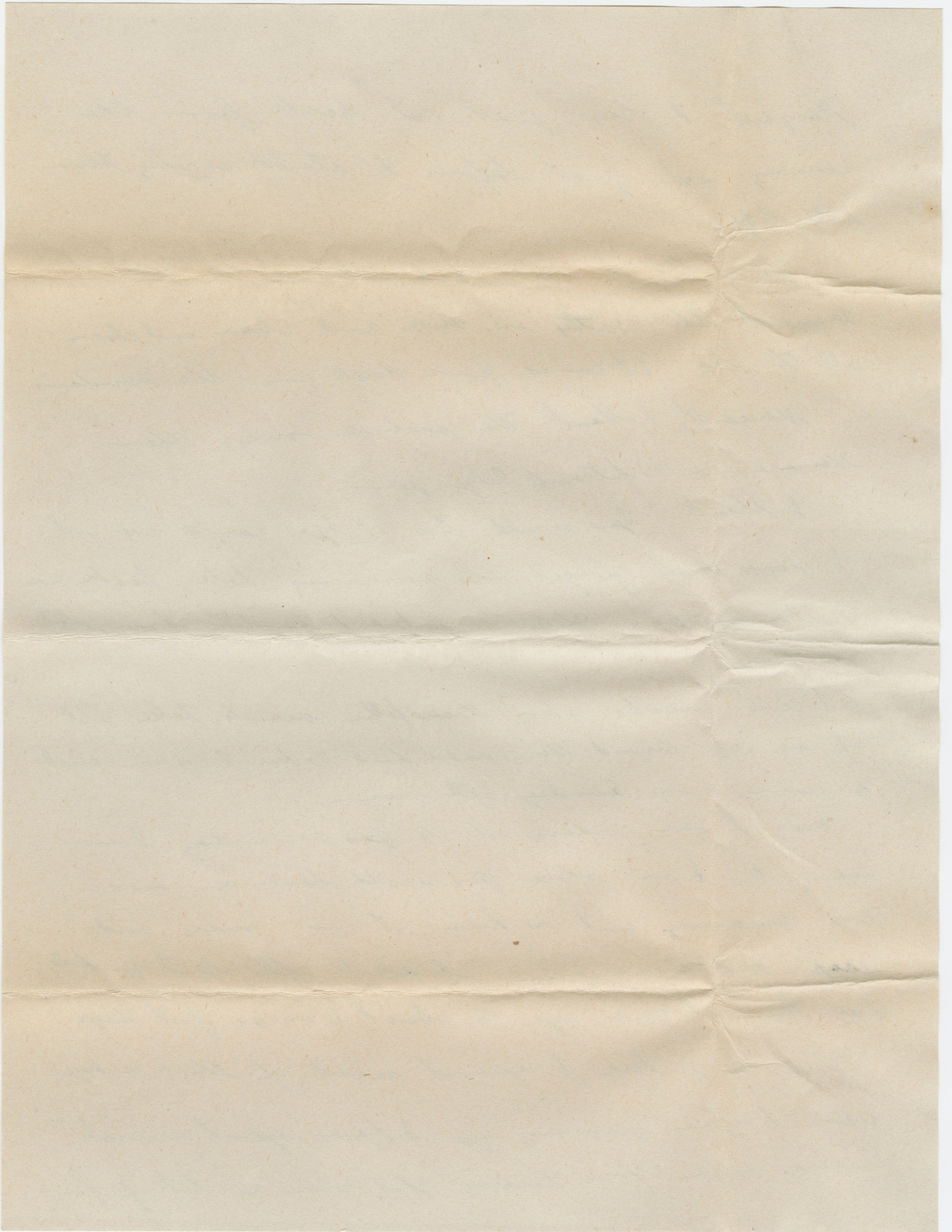
Margaret, I think the pool is nicer than the one in Whitcomb Riley poem.

I think you would love it if you could see it. I never will forget the swimming hole. back in North Carolina. There is where I use to have lots of fun.

I can remember when Grandfather use to take all of us kids around the water hole where I was raised to swim every Sunday after noon.

Maybe I can show it to you some day. I am hoping to. I am sure you would have a nice time swimming out where it is nice and deep. Where we go in it starts off about ankle deep. Then it goes up to about 30 or 40 feet deep.

There is where I spent most of the Sundays when I was growing up. I have spent several rainy days there fishing. That was a lot of fun.



Well, I am shore that you dont enjoy reading
about my life as a child. about the things I use
to get a grate kick out of. So I will stop writing about
it.

I bet you use to have a nice time when
you was a kid going swimming. Well you are not
an old woman yet. You are just a sweet little
girl. Oarent you. Margaret. I think you are.

Margaret. I am not eating as many pineapples
bananas and coconuts as I use to. Because I have got
to when I dont care so much about them.

Margaret. I am glad to know that your two
cousins are back from overseas.

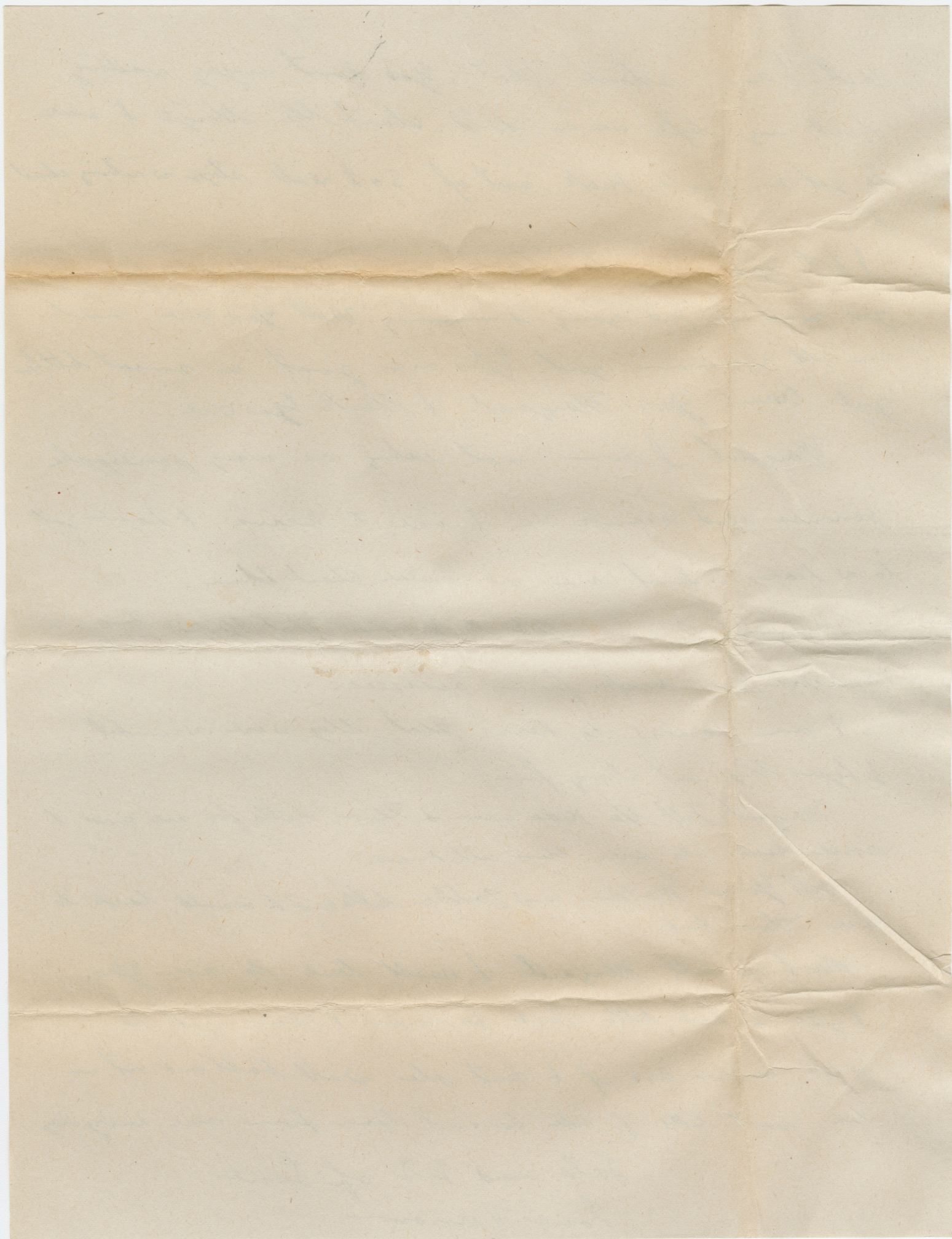
I am sorrow to hear that they were wounded.
I hope they are along fine.

Margaret. Tell the kids around there hellos for me and I
would like to see them all know.

Tell your mother and father hellos and I would like to
see them two.

Most of all Margaret I would love to see you.
I guess I had better close for know I have got to
write mother two if I dont she will ball me out in
her next letter if she doesnt hear from me every day.

Lots and lots of Love
Love Vernon

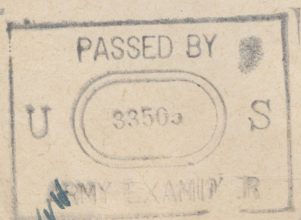
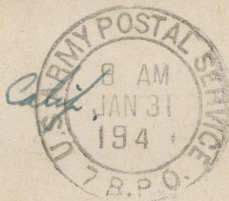


Sgt. W. V. Attil 34421169

4th Photo Center Sq.

A. P. O. # 565

c/o P. M. San Francisco, Calif.



Miss. Margaret L. Applegate

R. R. 12 Box 120

Indianapolis 44,

Indiana

Received
Feb. 6, 1945

Dear Margaret.

Here it is Sunday again. Talking about a doubt day it shore in one.

I dont have any thing to do untill 4 o'clock then I will have to go on guard duty.

Will be on all night then I will have to go to work in the morning down on the line.

I wish I was where I could to off been with you this morning we could to off went to church. Where I should to off went this morning

Margaret I have the picture of you that you sent me in a frame setting on a home made table in my tent. Just where I can see it every time I come in the tent. and even while I am in the tent.

That is what keeps me from setting down some lines and. Well I might as well to confess all most cry. I shouldnt be such a baby shall I. When I look at your picture I say to my self. Chue up and keep working harder.

Dear Margaret

Give it in Sunday again. I'll bring
about a book day it there in one

I don't have any thing to do until I look
then I will take up on Sunday day
Will be on all night the ball game
to go to look in the morning down on
the line

I think I was when I could to off here
with you this morning we could to off and
to look what I should to off with this morning

Margaret I have the picture of you that
you sent me in a frame sitting on a
table made table in my front where I can
see it every time I come in to the kitchen
while I am in the kitchen
That in what hope we have sitting down
now time and will I write on a card to explain
all out up. I should be with a baby with
I. When I look at your picture I say to my
self. Give up and stop working hard.

because it is you that I am over here trying
to help win this war. God and Millions others
just lack you only not an vice and sweet as
you.

Margaret, I received your letter today that was
wrote the ~~11th~~ 11th day of January. Today is the
29th.

One year ago today I was on my way home
on furl from Salt Lake City. This year I want
because I am 7 or 8 times as far from home.

Margaret, that is some snow that is falling
back there. Over here only rain and sunshine in
all we get. we get plenty of rain and sunshine.

Margaret, it is none of my business what you do
out I am asking you not to join the Cadet nurse
corps. Just for me. I know you want to help but
I know that you doing your part there at home.

Another thing you never know what you getting into
so for me and your Mother and Father please don't.

Some day maby I can tell you the reason I didn't
wont you to join.

Margaret, I wouldn't say anything if you did.
But I can ask you not too. Can't I, Margaret.

I am sure that Mrs. and Mr. Applegate will

because it is your duty to be over the things
to help in the war and other
get back you out on war and other
M. J.

Thank you for the letter that was
sent the 11th day of January. Today is the
29th.

Over your own things I was on my way home
on funds from Salt Lake City. This year I was
because I am 700 times as far from home.
Thank you, that is more than that in fact
back there. Don't be any more and something in
all we get out of plenty of rain and something
Thank you it is more of my home what you do
but I am asking you not to give the Utah money
Copper. Good for me. I know you want to help but
I know this is doing your part the at home.
Another thing you were known what you getting into
to far me and your father and other places don't
have any more I can tell you the reason I think
about you to give.

Thank you I would not say anything if you did
but I can not see not too. Thank you to
I am sure that Mr. and Mrs. Applegate will

agree with me. Want they.

I bet Forest is a good scout leader. Dad and Mother use to call me a scout because I use to go hunting every night in the winter time when I didn't go with my sister to a school play or some place Mother wouldn't let her go unless I was along. If I didn't go the girls that my sister ran around with and sister would aggrivate me untill I did. if I had plenty of work I wanted some they would promise to help me the next day. Well when it came around there wasn't no one sister to help so I went on and did it my self. What I would to off did any way. I just did it to pick at them.

No Margaret. I haven't herd from David yet. I hope to hear soon. I wrote him the same night I got your letter with his address.

Margaret, I am hoping I never get in the hospital while I am in the army. for case I do I will let you know.

Margaret. Tell Mrs and Mr. Applegate hello and I would like to see them. and I am hoping to see you again soon to see how much you have grown. Well I guess I had better close for know and write Mother and Father.

Love
Verner

copy with me about this
I let Fanny in a good heart
Hob and Mother use to call me a heart because
see to go hunting every night in the winter time
when I didn't go with my sister to a school play
or some other Mother wouldn't let her go unless
I was clean. If I didn't go the girls that my sister
can count with and sister would argue me
until I did if I had plenty of work to do some
the whole promise to take me the next day. Well she
it came around the next morning and she
I went on and did it my self. What would she off
the very day I did it to get out of
The Marquise I haven't had from Paris yet. There
a few more. I want her the next night
but your letter with the address
Marquise. I am hoping to run out in the night
while I am in the city. For sure to do it will
let you know.
Marquise. All my love to you. Opposite the one I
would like to see this. And I am hoping to see
you again soon to see how you are and how
you are. Well I see I had better close for now
and write Mother and Fanny.

Love
Fanny