

H/2442. Cadet # #. 7665492.  
HUT 94, DC 8<sup>th</sup> Br. Sherwood  
Foresters.  
148 Pre-O.C.T.V. Tng. 92  
Wrotham Camp  
Wrotham  
Kent.  
4/10/43.

Dear Claire,

Mother said  
that she intended to  
ring you yesterday (sorry!  
said yesterday she'd ring  
today) but I do feel that  
I owe you a letter.

I guess the first thing  
to say is that - to cut  
a long story short (quite  
fussing) - the sooner  
I get away from here  
the more vastly relieved  
shall I be. Believe me, if

Woodhall was bad, then  
this joint is sheer hell on  
earth. What gets you is  
the general messing around  
- & that is putting it very  
politely. Thus far the  
physical side has been  
nothing & this is the  
second week of my driving  
training - this week on  
two bikes. Whilst I did  
reasonably well on the 30cc  
trucks I do not feel nearly  
so confident on these bikes.  
I think I can say that  
a little more experience &  
I'd be able to drive quite  
well. The instructor was

quite pleased. All I have to do now is to pass on the bikes, keep out of trouble & I may get a little leave before proceeding to O.C.T.U. That is, if I go at all because if O.C.T.U. is anything like this then I'll go back with pleasure. I gather, however, that what look O.C.T.U. is a distinct improvement on this. It had better be.

As I say, the training is O.K. but this C<sup>04</sup> is the worst ever. Reveille at 5.45. parade at 7. That may sound easy but if you could



only realise what has to be done & the general conditions of chaos here you'd realise just how much that means. Anyway, breakfast is at 6.30, & during the day we have sandwiches. Dinner is then at 6.30 pm - if you're lucky - as that the food is lovely. All in all you can see that life isn't too pleasant. The lads here are thoroughly brenned off & in an almost constant state of minding - pipes or no pipes. Incidentally if some of these kids are to be officers then heaven help

the poor devils shall be  
under their command.

It seems a long time  
since I saw you. How are  
the academics - sorry I  
mean amo-dramatics. How  
you played Juliet yet? Or  
perhaps the M.O.S. is  
engaging all your attention.  
Perhaps next week I may be  
able to call at that  
great hive of industry.  
Incidentally you might call  
them to supply me with a  
few articles necessary to  
an officer. How is the  
party one progressing??  
In passing I might say

that I am now but a  
shadow of my former self  
quite honestly. If ever I  
do wear a collar & tie I  
shall weigh about 82 lbs  
at the present rate.

Well Mr. Waddy I  
guess I'd better scram  
& hope once again I'll  
be able to see you next  
week. My regards to  
Liz & I'll write him in  
due course. All the best

Sincerely yours

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