Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters

Section 17, Pages 481 - 510

This collection of letters is written by Staff Sergeant Horace Sharp Jr. of the 18th infanty regiment of the 1st infantry division to his fiance Marilyn Mitchell and his parents. For more information see the link below to Archives Catalog.

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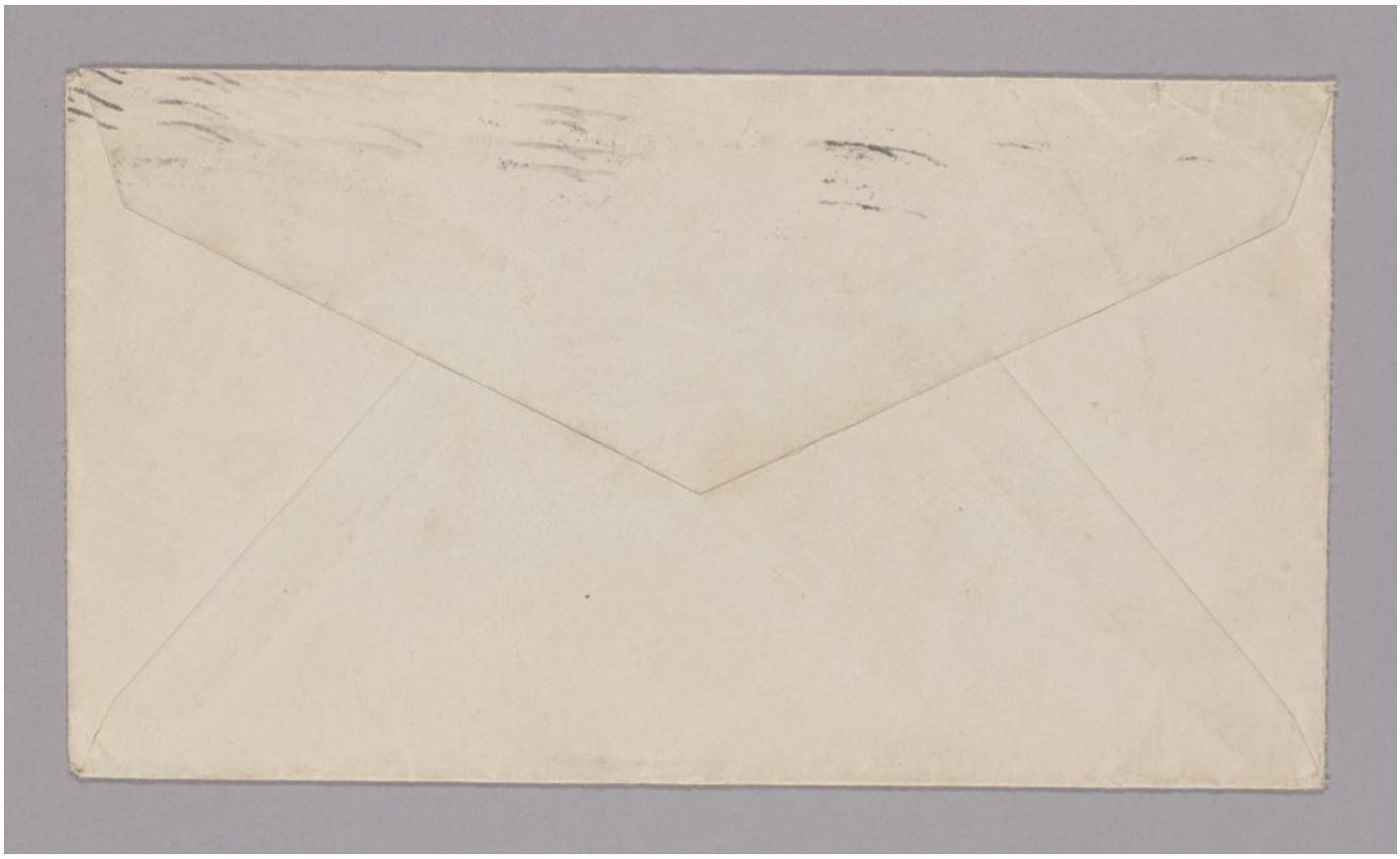
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Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters





Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters

(8) ABDUL ABULBUL AMIR

(Two Tough Hombres)

1. The sons of the prophet are brave men and bold,
   And quite unaccustomed to fear,
   But the bravest by far in the ranks of the Shah
   Was Abdul Abulbul Amir.
2. Now the heroes were plenty and well known to fame
   In the troops that were led by the Czar,
   And the bravest of these was a man by the name
   Of Ivan Skavinsky Skavar.
3. One day this bold Russian had shouldered his gun,
   And donned his most truculent sneer,
   Down town he did go, where he trod on the toe
   Of Abdul Abulbul Amir.
4. "Young man," quoth Abdul, "has life grown so dull
   That you wish to end your career?
   Vile infidel, know, you have trod on the toe
   Of Abdul Abulbul Amir."
5. Said Ivan, "My friend, your remarks in the end
   Will avail you but little, I fear,
   For you ne'er will survive to repeat them alive,
   Mr. Abdul Abulbul Amir."
6. "So take your last look at sunshine and brook,
   And send your regrets to the Czar
   For by this I imply, you are going to die,
   Count Ivan Skavinsky Skavar!"
7. Then this bold Mameluke drew his trusty skibouk
   With a cry of "Allah Akbar,"
   And with murderous intent he ferociously went
   For Ivan Skavinsky Skavar.
8. They parried and thrust, they sidestepped and cussed,
   Of blood they spilled a great part;
   The philologist blokes, who seldom crack jokes,
   Say that hash was first made on that spot.
9. They fought all that night 'neath the pale yellow moon
   The din, it was heard from afar,
   And huge multitudes came, so great was the fame,
   Of Abdul and Ivan Skavar.
10. There's a tomb rises up where the Blue Danube rolls,
    And 'graved there in characters clear,
    Are, "Stranger, when passing, oh pray for the soul
    Of Abdul Abulbul Amir."
11. A splash in the Black Sea one dark moonless night,
    Caused ripples to spread wide and far,
    It was made by a sack fitting close to the back,
    Of Ivan Skavinsky Skavar.
12. A Muscovite maiden her lone vigil keeps,
    'Neath the light of the pale polar star,
    And the name that she murmurs so oft, as she weeps,
    Is Ivan Skavinsky Skavar.

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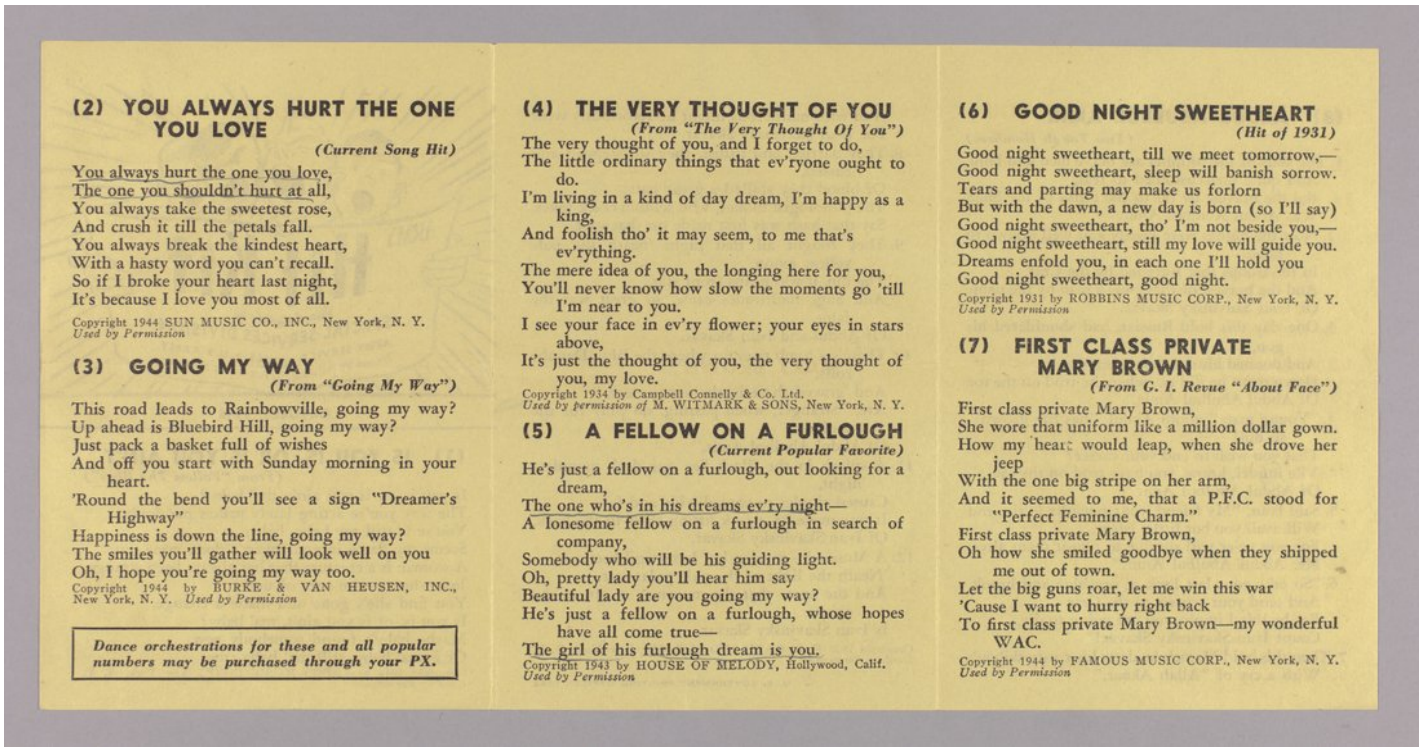
OCTOBER, 1944

(1) IS YOU IS, OR IS YOU AIN'T

(From "Follow The Boys")

Is you is, or is you ain't, ma' baby?
The way you're acting lately makes me doubt.
You'se is still my baby, baby,
Seems my flame in your heart's done gone out.
A woman is a creature that has always been strange,
Just when you're sure of one
You find she's gone and made a change.
Is you is, or is you ain't, ma' baby?
Maybe baby's found somebody new,
Or is ma' baby, still ma' baby true.

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(2) YOU ALWAYS HURT THE ONE YOU LOVE

(Current Song Hit)

You always hurt the one you love,
The one you shouldn't hurt at all,
You always take the sweetest rose,
And crush it till the petals fall.
You always break the kindest heart,
With a hasty word you can't recall.
So if I broke your heart last night,
It's because I love you most of all.

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(3) GOING MY WAY

(From "Going My Way")

This road leads to Rainbowville, going my way?
Up ahead is Bluebird Hill, going my way?
Just pack a basket full of wishes
And off you start with Sunday morning in your heart.
'Round the bend you'll see a sign "Dreamer's Highway"
Happiness is down the line, going my way?
The smiles you'll gather will look well on you
Oh, I hope you're going my way too.

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Dance orchestrations for these and all popular numbers may be purchased through your PX.

(4) THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU

(From "The Very Thought Of You")

The very thought of you, and I forget to do,
The little ordinary things that ev'ryone ought to do.
I'm living in a kind of day dream, I'm happy as a king,
And foolish tho' it may seem, to me that's ev'rything.
The mere idea of you, the longing here for you,
You'll never know how slow the moments go 'till I'm near to you.
I see your face in ev'ry flower; your eyes in stars above,
It's just the thought of you, the very thought of you, my love.

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(5) A FELLOW ON A FURLOUGH

(Current Popular Favorite)

He's just a fellow on a furlough, out looking for a dream,
The one who's in his dreams ev'ry night—
A lonesome fellow on a furlough in search of company,
Somebody who will be his guiding light.
Oh, pretty lady you'll hear him say
Beautiful lady are you going my way?
He's just a fellow on a furlough, whose hopes have all come true—
The girl of his furlough dream is you.

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(6) GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART

(Hit of 1931)

Good night sweetheart, till we meet tomorrow,—
Good night sweetheart, sleep will banish sorrow.
Tears and parting may make us forlorn
But with the dawn, a new day is born (so I'll say)
Good night sweetheart, tho' I'm not beside you,—
Good night sweetheart, still my love will guide you.
Dreams enfold you, in each one I'll hold you
Good night sweetheart, good night.

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(7) FIRST CLASS PRIVATE MARY BROWN

(From G. I. Revue "About Face")

First class private Mary Brown,
She wore that uniform like a million dollar gown.
How my heart would leap, when she drove her jeep
With the one big stripe on her arm,
And it seemed to me, that a P.F.C. stood for "Perfect Feminine Charm."
First class private Mary Brown,
Oh how she smiled goodbye when they shipped me out of town.
Let the big guns roar, let me win this war
'Cause I want to hurry right back
To first class private Mary Brown—my wonderful WAC.

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UNITED STATES ARMY
FORT McCLELLAN
FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

Pvt. Jr. Horace Sharp 37716442
Co B. 22. Bn.
Ft. McClellan
Alabama
U. S. Army

22, Oct. 1944
Sunday 8 P.M.

Dearest Mickey:

How are you this evening, swell I hope. I am fine. I just got back from the P. X. I got some Ice Cream and some after shaving lotion. When Younger and I came out of the P.X. we saw a crap game so we decided to watch it awhile, we watched for about five minutes & decided it wasn't the place for us, so we left. After we had walked a little ways I turned around and saw that some guys were fighting, so off

Course we ran back. A big tall skin man, fairly old and a short, stubby, Mexican kid were fighting. They got in a fight on account of something that happened in the dice game. It seemed to me it was all the Mexican's fault. The big guy had him down and could have really beat him up, but I guess he didn't want to hurt him, so he let him up and the Mexican really hit him, then he got him down and really twisted his arm. The big guy should have beat him up in the first place. Finally the big guy got up but about the time he did this Mexican hit him and knocked him out. So ended the fight. It would have been to bad for both if the M. P.'s had came while they were fighting. The Mexican was about half tight, it seemed to me. I guess that is where your dice and beer get a guy) — — into trouble. We really had a crowd for awhile. Some of us wanted to break it up to keep them out of trouble but the other guys said "let them go", so we did. It doesn't pay to but into some body else's business. Well, what did you think of the fight, pretty good el

After reading this letter over this seems like a quick change of subject

UNITED STATES ARMY

FORT McCLELLAN
FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

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It really seems swell to get back into Camps where everything is so clean.

Did I tell you that four guys got killed while we were out on maneuvers, two of them got killed while we were advancing under machine Gun fire. Another one got killed by artillery which was firing over our heads, a piece of shrapnel hit him in the neck & then hit his juglar vein. The other guy was killed by another fella falling down and his rifle went off and hit him.

The thing that was the most exciting was the assemblated capturing of a German Village. The first thing they laid down a smoke screen for us to advance, which we did & then started clearing out houses. There were booby traps every where you would step they wouldn't hurt you if you were two fat away!! there were also hand grenades flying in all directions. Machine guns firing down the street and dynamite going off on all sides of you

we also used flame throwers in this problem. That is really a good weapon. It will shoot a big wall of fire for 50 yards. In this problem I got to fire the Bazooka, it is also a good weapon. Well, hear I am telling you things that you probably aren't even intersted in.

This is really a happy Battalion to-nite most of the tough work is over and most of the guys are getting ready to go home on furlough. Gosh, honey I wish I could be coming home to see my sweetheart (you still are my sweetheart aren't you. ans.) It would really be swell you see my honey.

Honey, after I read your letter (that I got from you, after I had ask you to return my ring) I really felt bad. It made me think you really must love me, if you wanted me to be there to hold you in my arms. You aren't the only one who is looking forward to my furlough, honey. It is going to be swell to come and see you & also be with you as much as I possibly can. Honey, you said after I wrote you that letter you didn't have any thing to look forward to. Sweetheart, I hate to think of when my furlough is over and God only knows when I will get to come back.

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UNITED STATES ARMY
FORT McCLELLAN
FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

I hope you dont want to have to many dates after I leave. Honey, the radio is playing Oh, What A Beatyful Morning, Honey don't you think that is a pretty song. I think it is the prettiest song I ever heard. I'm just crazy about it.

Honey after I received your letter saying you did have a date, I received some pictures I had sent in to have developed. I decided that if you were having dates you wouldn't want any pictures of me so I sent them to Grandma, Mary Ellen & the folks. Most of them are pretty good pictures, better than the others. When they send them back I will send them to you. (If you want them). I do have a couple of enlarged colored pictures of myself that aren't bad. I will send you one of them too. I had them taken awhile before we went out on our first bivouac and I just got them a couple days ago.

I am really behind on my letter

over

Writing, but of course my sweetheart comes first. I didn't write you any letters for several days because I just supposed if you wanted to have dates we would be through, then I received such a convincing letter from you, honey I hope you weren't just spreading it on. Honey, I really do love you and I mean every word of it. I just got a card from you today. I hope I am not slipping already.

Honey, I just read your letter over, Honey if you love me as much as you say you do, why did you ever have a date? especially without telling me about it. Honey, it really makes me feel sick when you do things like that, please don't do it again Honey.

The picture of you in your ~~slacks~~ or shorts is swell honey. Thanks a lot.

Have you had very much cool weather a home lately. It is really cool here, I would hate to be out on bivouac tonite.

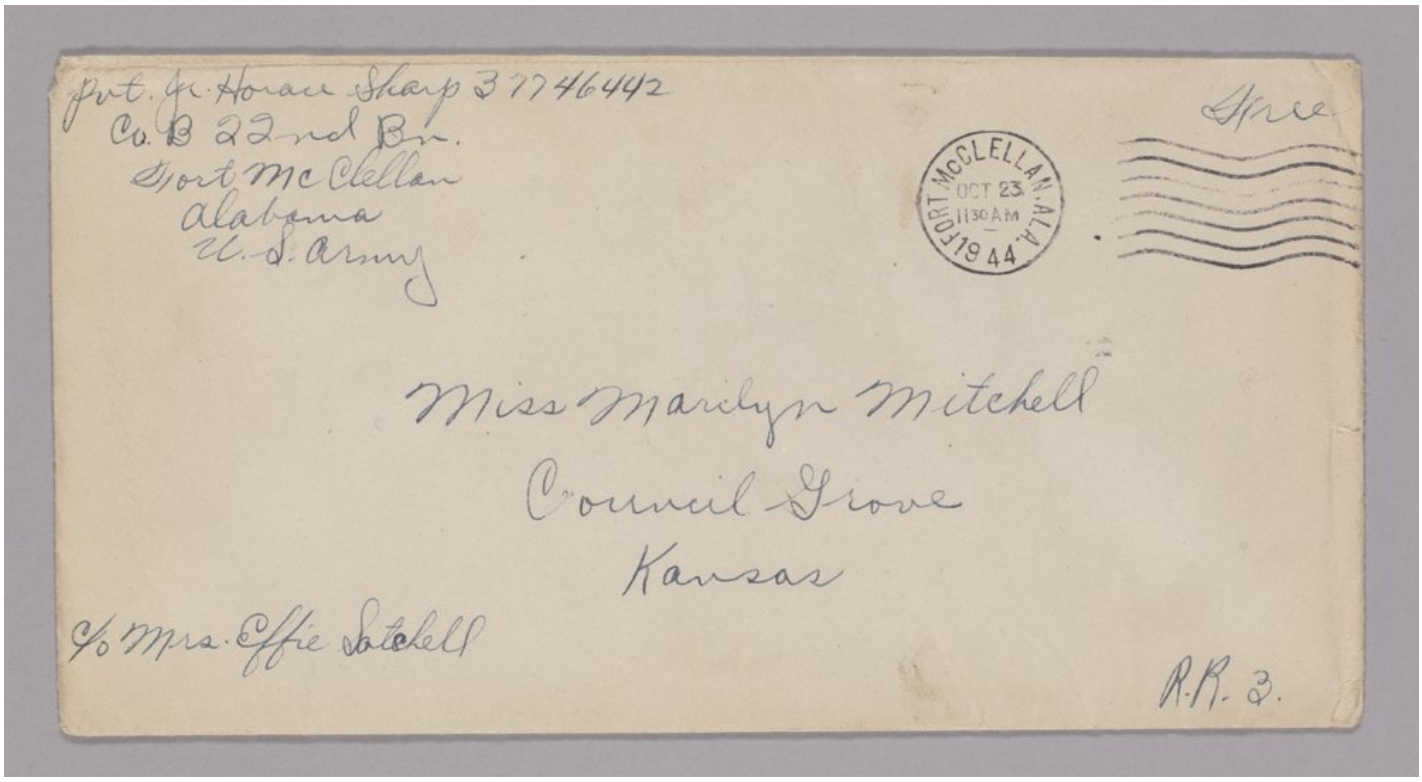
Well, honey I think this letter is plenty long enough for tonite so I will close for now. I love you sweetheart.

Lots of love and Kisses
from your Sweetheart
Horace Sharp

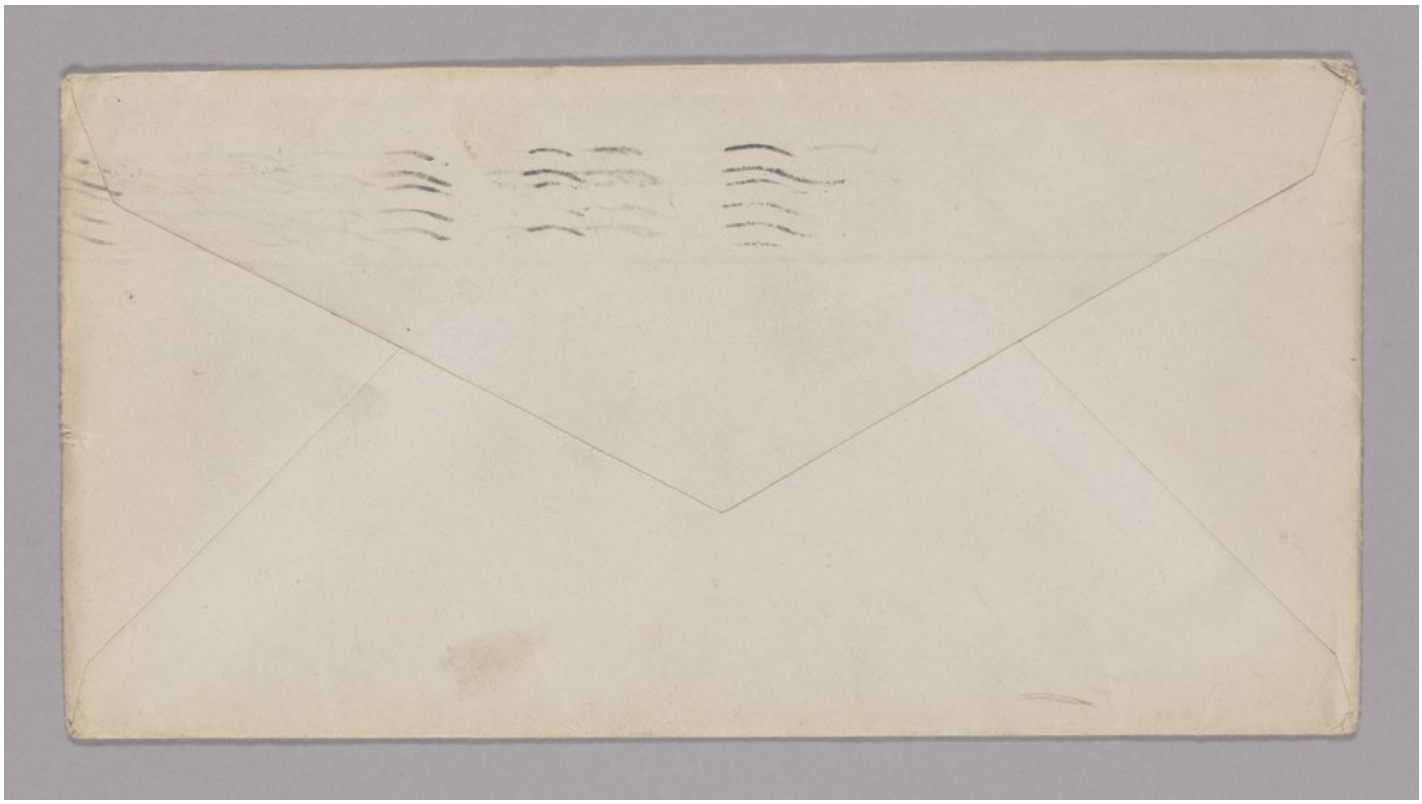
P.S. - I am enclosing a little song book that I think is nice.

Goodnight
We took some more pictures today, why I get them developed I will send them to you.

Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters



Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters

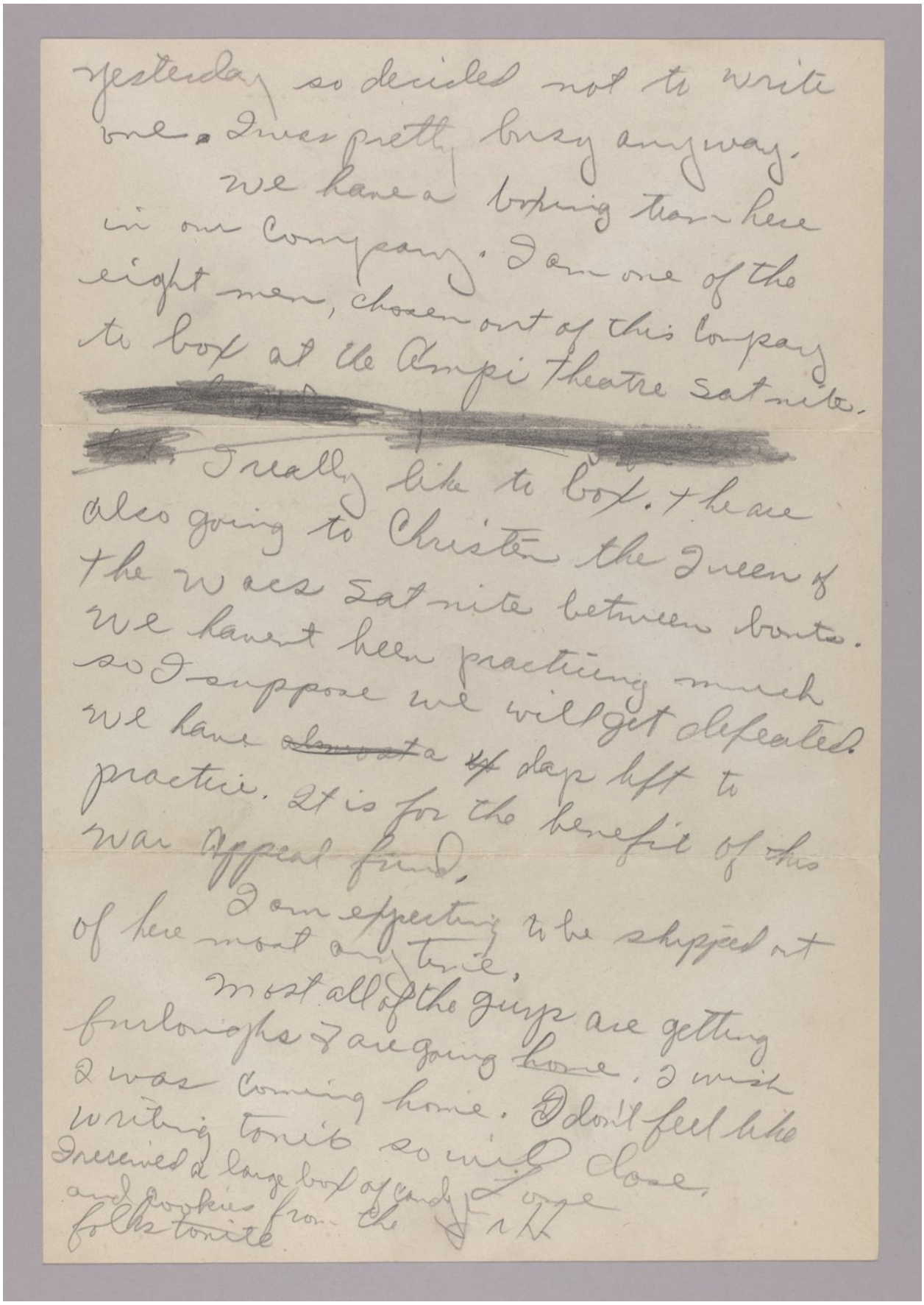


pvt. Jr Horace Sharp 37746442
Co. B 22nd Bn
Fort McClellan
Alabama
U. S. Army

22 Oct. 1944

Dear Micky:

Received a short letter from you today so thought I would answer it although there wasn't much to answer. It certainly doesn't take you long to write a letter. I think I am doing good if I finish one to you in an hour & 15 minutes, but you evidently have me faster. You started writing at 10:30 & finished before eleven o'clock. which is pretty fast to write a letter, & didn't receive any letter from you



yesterday so decided not to write one. Was pretty busy anyway.

We have a boxing team here in our Company. I am one of the eight men, chosen out of this company to box at the Ampi theatre sat nite.

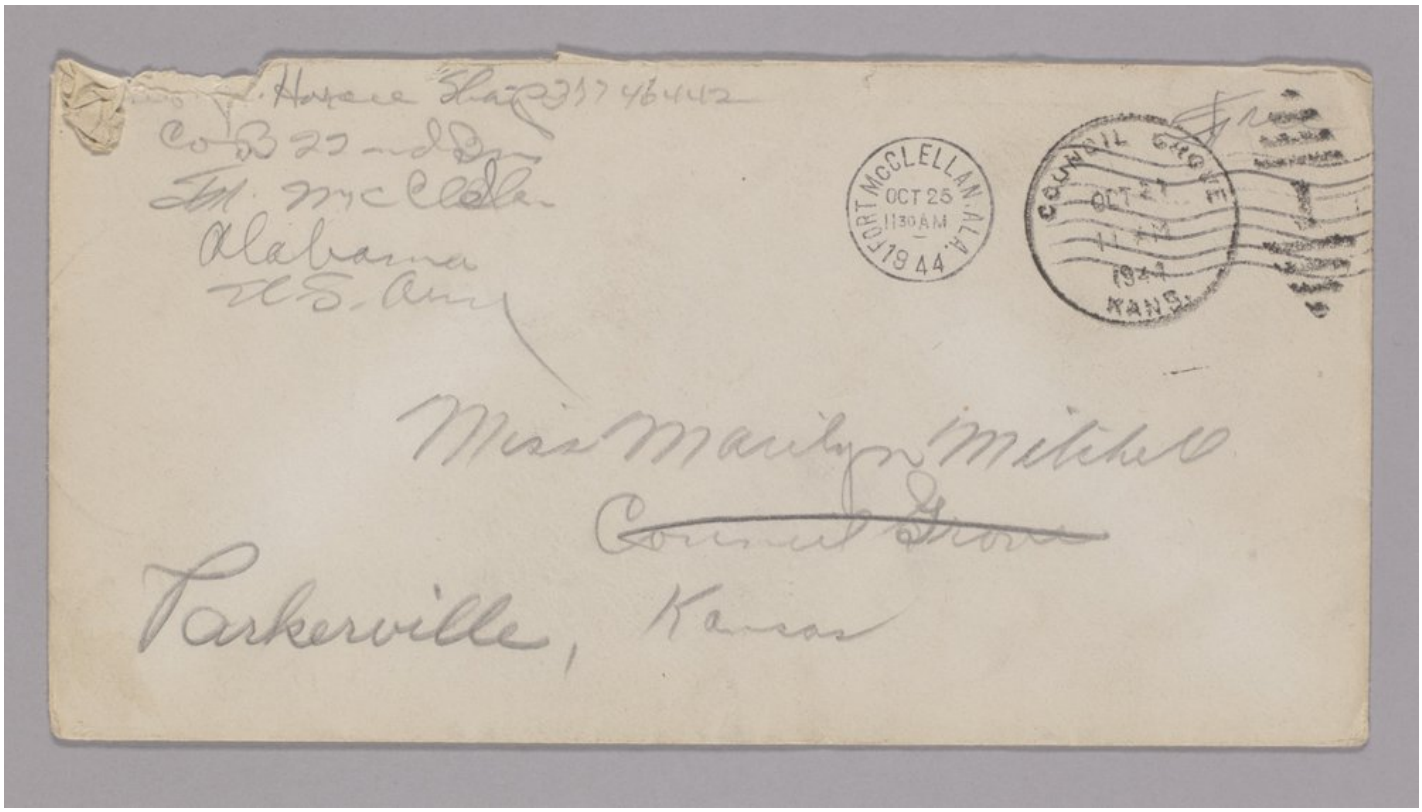
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I really like to box. + here also going to Christen the Queen of the Waacs Sat nite between bouts. We haven't been practicing much so I suppose we will get defeated. We have ~~almost a~~ ~~14~~ days left to practice. It is for the benefit of this War Appeal fund.

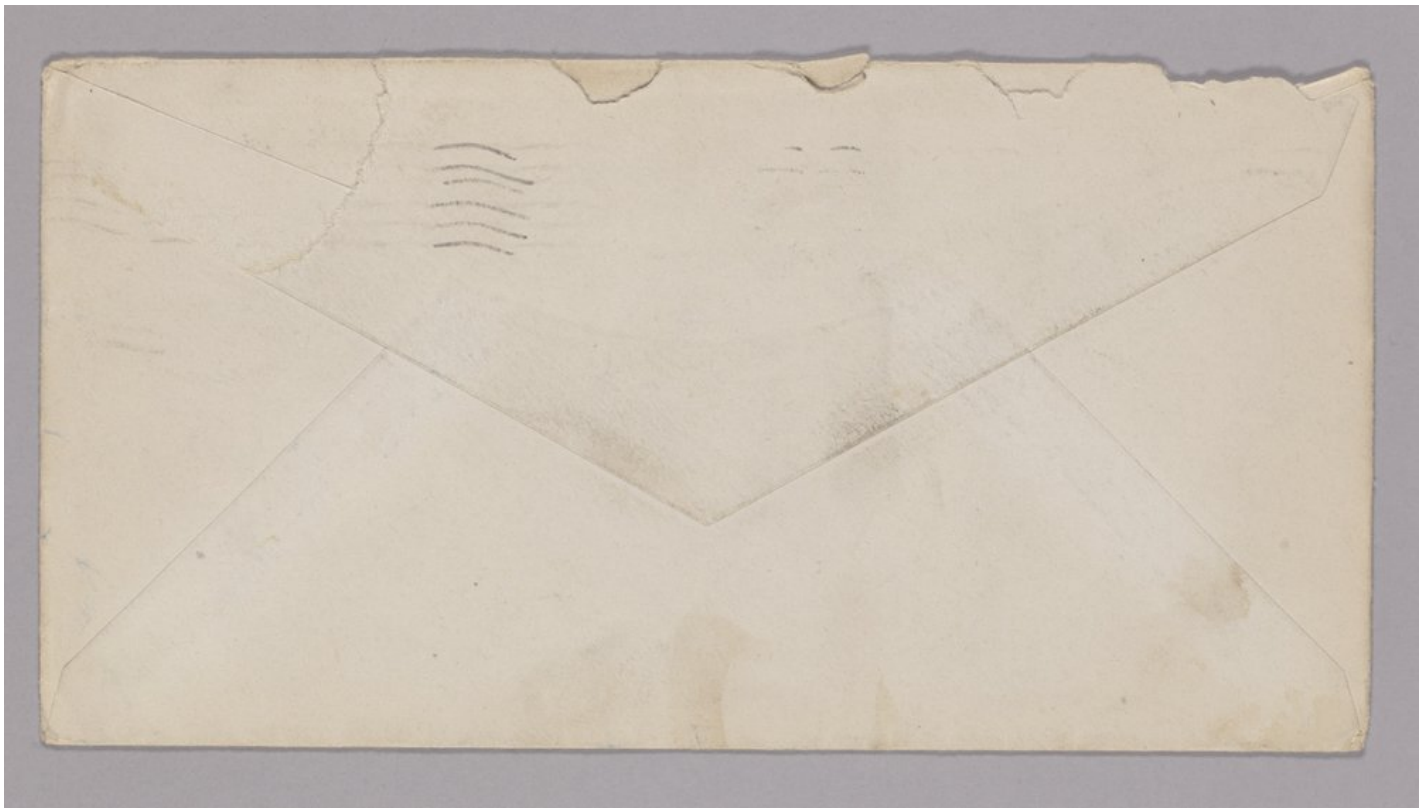
I am expecting to be shipped out of here most any time.

Most all of the guys are getting furloughs & are going home. I wish I was coming home. I don't feel like writing tonite so will close. Received a large box of candy & cookies from the folks tonite. Love

Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters



Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters



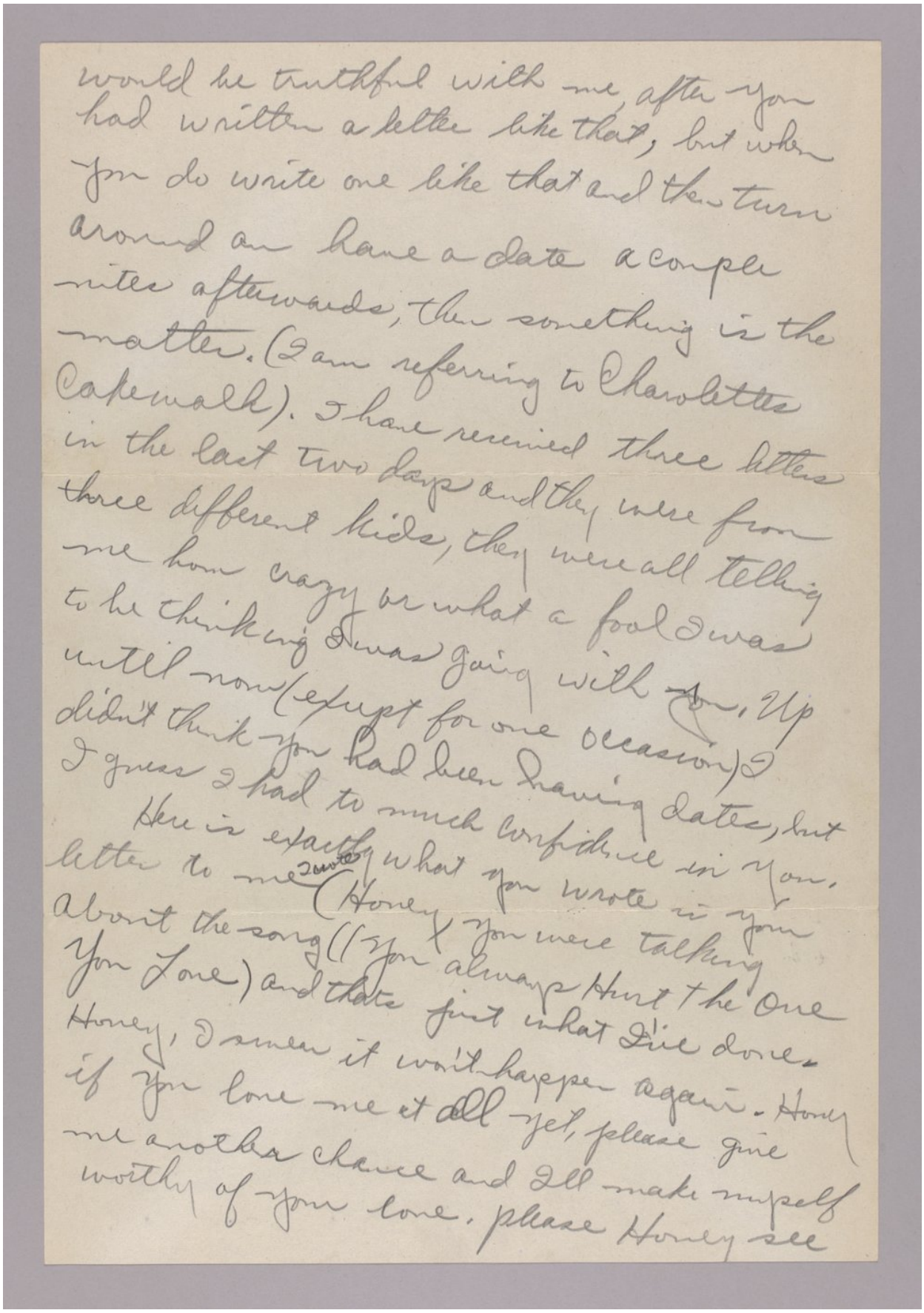
Pvt Jr Horace Sharp 37746442
Co B. 22nd Bn
Fort McClellan
Alabama
U. S. Army

24, Oct, 1944
Wednesday

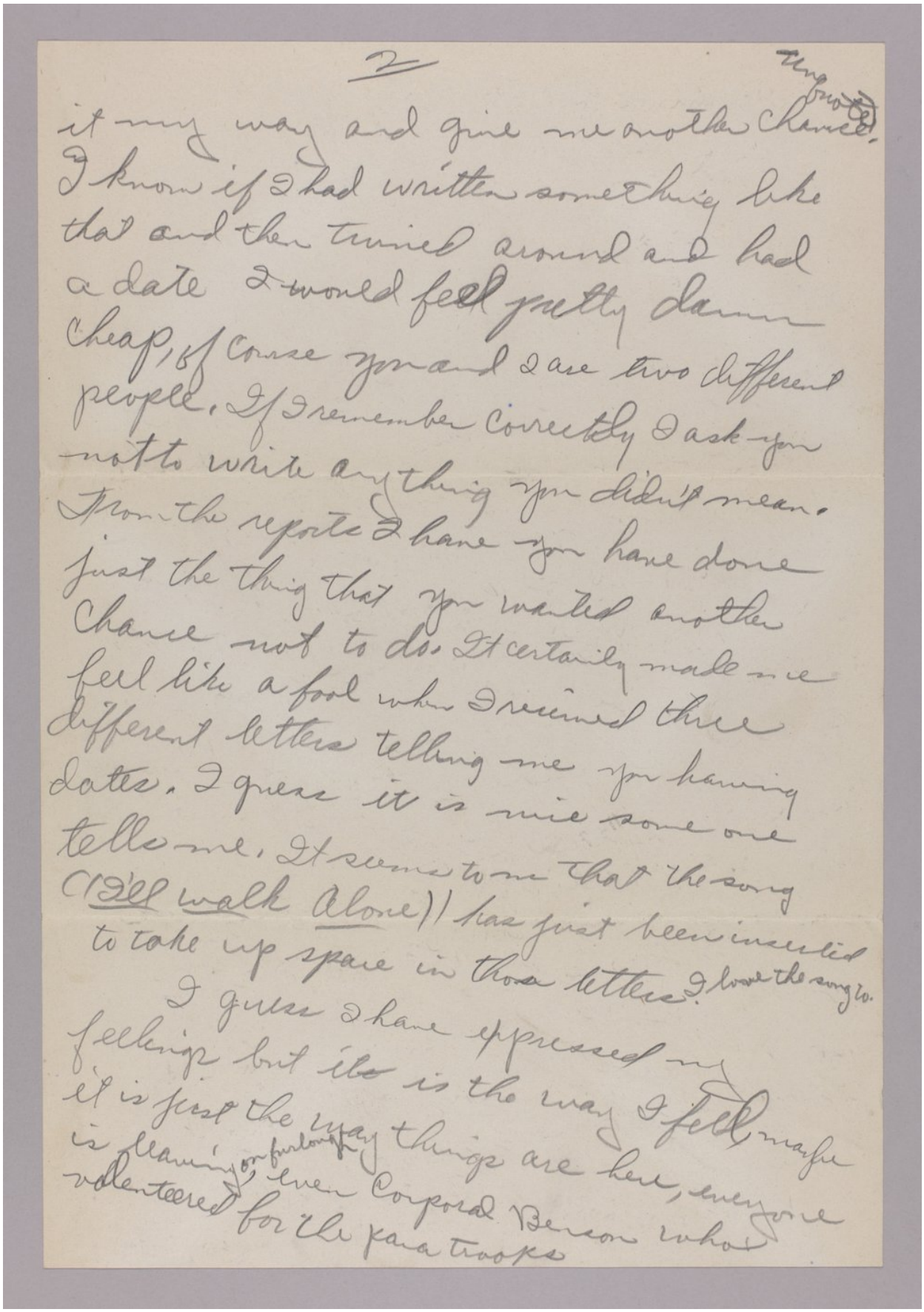
Dear Micky:

Just got back from the show. It was "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"! It was pretty good. A bunch of guys went to the Service Club and then came back and eat supper.

Well, Marilyn in a letter I received from you a couple days ago you said you had read the letter over and I would probably think you were just spreading it on". Well I'm sorry to say that to write that is exactly the way I feel. You ask me to give you another chance, which is what I did, I thought that surely you



would be truthful with me, after you had written a letter like that, but when you do write one like that and then turn around an have a date a couple nites afterwards, then something is the matter. (I am referring to Charlottes Cakewalk). I have received three letters in the last two days and they were from three different kids, they were all telling me how crazy or what a fool I was to be thinking I was going with ~~her~~ you, Up until now (except for one occasion) I didn't think you had been having dates, but I guess I had to much confidence in you. Here is exactly what you wrote in your letter to me (Honey) you were talking about the song ((You always Hurt the One You Love) and that just what you've done Honey, I swear it won't happen again. Honey if you love me at all yet, please give me another chance and I'll make myself worthy of your love. please Honey see



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it my way and give me another chance. I know if I had written something like that and then turned around and had a date I would feel pretty damn cheap, of course you and I are two different people. If I remember correctly I ask you not to write anything you didn't mean. From the reports I have you have done just the thing that you wanted another chance not to do. It certainly made me feel like a fool when I received three different letters telling me you having dates. I guess it is nice someone tells me. It seems to me that the song (I'll walk Alone) has just been invented to take up space in those letters. I love the song to.

I guess I have expressed my feelings but ibo is the way I feel, maybe it is just the way things are here, everyone is leaving on furlough even Corporal Benson who volenteered for the para troops

has left to go overseas. Sgt Mecca has also left, he was our platoon leader & our boxing manager.

Marilyn, if you want to have dates, please let me know so when I get to Ft Benning I can send you my address so you can return my ring & it will do the same. If I had shipped out of here it would come back to you (they won't transfer packages)

If you want to continue the gas as they are I am willing, because I do think a lot of you, but if there is any doubt in your mind that you want to go ahead having dates let me know & I will send you my address after I get to Benning.

If you decide on having dates, I don't think there is any better kid than Bob Engemire, he is young, but more your age than I am, and he is home where he can take you where you want to go. I would love to do the same thing but it just isn't possible. Hoping to hear from you soon. please give me a yes or no answer please make it final for once & for all. I know this letter wasn't very nice Marilyn, but I still think you're swell.

As ever
Jr Horace

Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters



Horace Sharp Jr., World War II letters



Pvt. Jr Horace Sharp #37746442
Co B. 22nd Bn.
Ft. McClellan
Alabama
U. S. Army

Oct. 29, 1944
Sunday 4 P.M.

Dearest Micky:

Well, today is Sunday and the day after we finished our cycle, but I have worked just as hard today as any day. We have been fighting forest fires a large part of the day, we never did get it out, but they brought some more men out to relieve us so we could come in, I hope we dont have to go back out. I was really tired when I got up this morning because last nite I boxed at the Ansi Theatre. We fought for only three rounds. The judges awarded me the decision. This morning when I got up I was sore all over & noticed I had a partially black eye. Even though a guy does get some realy hard blows, I still just love to box.

In a letter I got from you a couple days ago, you said you couldn't hardly write a very long letter since you hadn't gotten any from me for several days. In your letter today you said you had gotten the two letters I had written, but still your letter was just a little over a page long.

You ask about the large tinted pictures I had, well I would have liked to have sent you one but I have already given one to the folks, Grandma & Hayle & Betty. I will send you some small ones when the guys I sent them to, send them back.

I guess some of your letter have been going to Bn. 20 instead of Bn. 22, your last 2 looked something like a Zero instead of a 2.

If it is any of my buisness who were the parkersville kids you went to C. D. to the show with?

Say kiddo, it makes it look like a longer letter when you put that extra sheet of flatwiery in and write a couple words on it but couldn't you first write a little more, please?

Micky, you said something about me coming and visiting school even though we weren't going together. Well, that definitely won't happen, because I know if we weren't going together and I still thought enough of you to come an see you

then I would probably still think enough of you to ask you for a date, if that happened I would probably want to be with you through my entire furlough, then after I left you would probably do the same way you done after I left the first time. If you now on I am going to have a girl friend that is true to me or none at all. — — — Something else you said in your letter was I note — — (I just don't want to go with anyone else.). If you remember I [illegal] ask you not to write anything that was true or that you didn't mean. Yes, Micky you probably could explain things better if I were there. So, Mrs. Satchell was going to write to me. Ha. Well tell her I would probably [illegal] be glad to hear from her. Micky next time please forget your school teaching just long enough to finish that extra page on that letter. please.

I just now stopped long enough to get me a coke.

Micky tell me what you mean by this; you said, "yes, Sweetheart I wish you were home now too, but if it is just four more weeks, I can wait that much longer. Please explain. You also said, after I ask you, that you wouldn't have another date without telling me about it. Well, Micky since then I have been told a thing or two that didn't help matters any, so instead of writing & telling me about it I mean just wrap me up and send it back

I would feel just as good about receiving my ring as being told you had a date. Honey I just can't visualize myself coming home & kissing a girl that was supposed to be my sweetheart, but instead has been having dates.

Mickey what was it you wanted to say in your letter, but you said, you would wait until you saw me. Please tell me. There is the chow ~~whistle~~ whistle, must go eat -- be back in a minute. Just got back from supper & also played a game of pool. The radio is playing I'll Never Know Just How Much I Love You!

Well, we have started turning in our equipment and we expect to get shipping orders any day now. Most of the guys will get 10 days & then be sent overseas. I am afraid we are in for a long war. The way things look to me, the war in the Pacific hasn't even started & the war in Europe will probably drag through the winter. I'd give anything if it were over now.

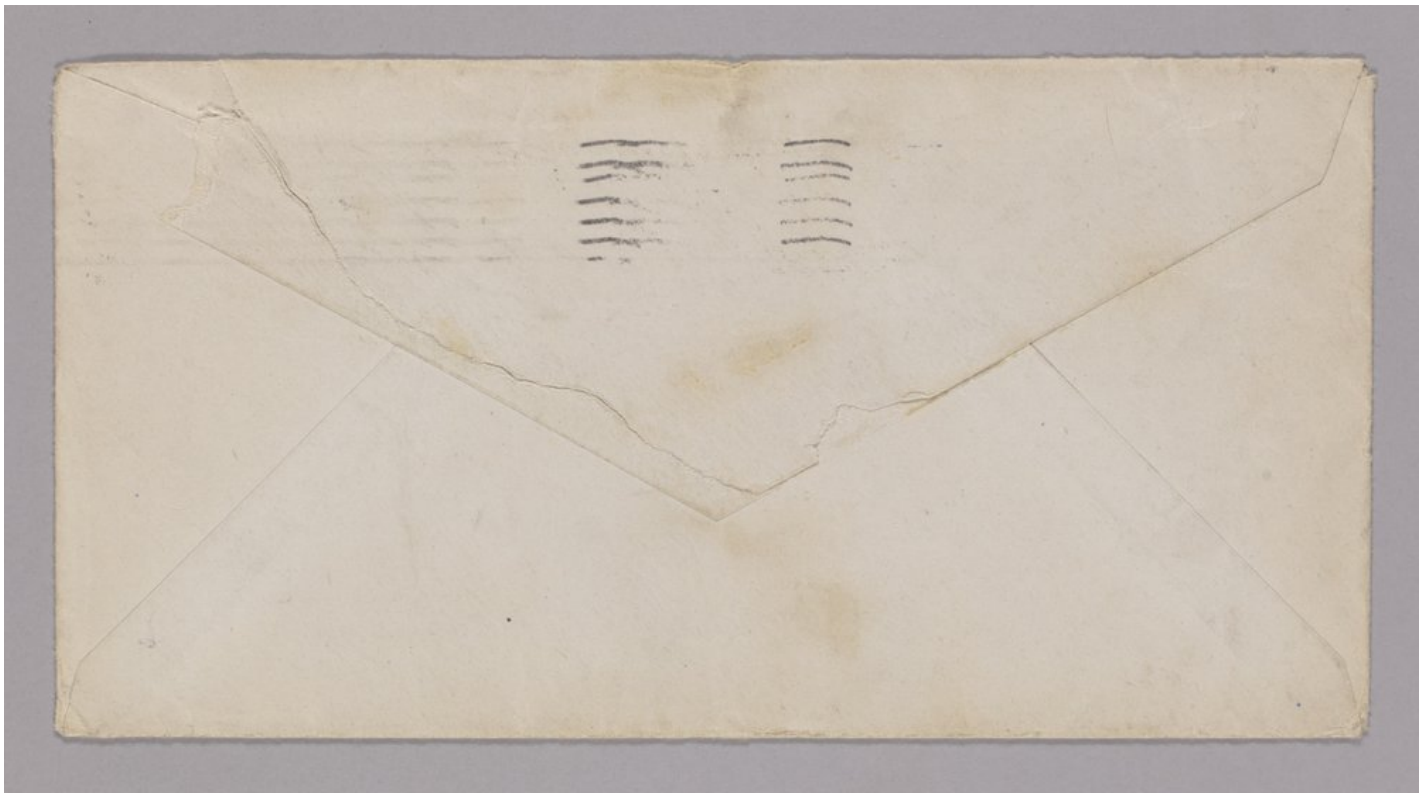
Mickey I just read this over and it isn't a very nice letter, but I will [redacted] try & do better next time. Must close.

Love
H. H. Sharp Jr.

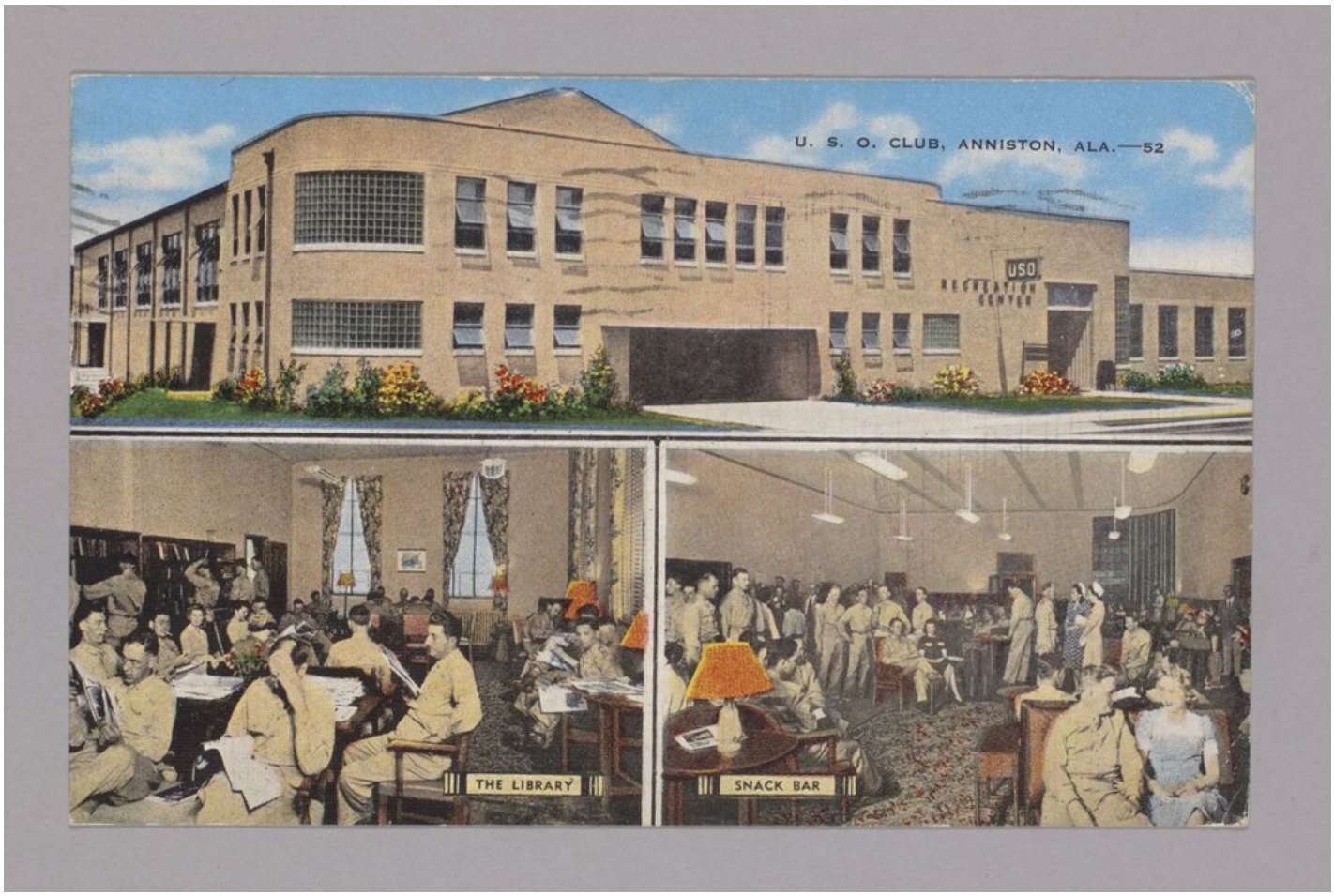
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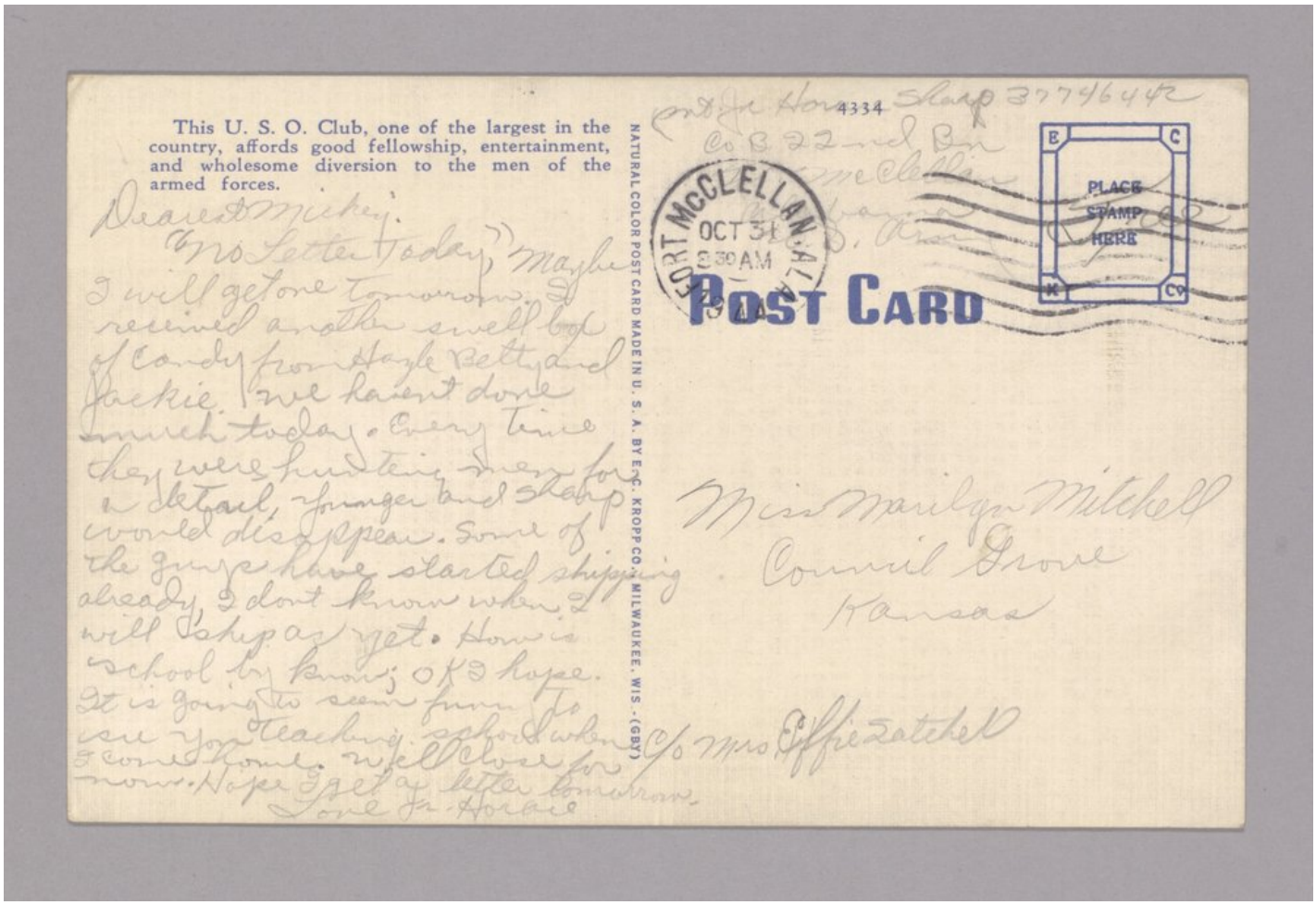
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4334

Pvt Jr Horace Sharp 37746442
Co B 22nd Bn
Camp McClellan
Alabama

FORT McCLELLAN, ALA.
OCT 31
8:30 AM

PLACE STAMP HERE

POST CARD

Miss Marilyn Mitchell
Council Grove
Kansas

c/o Mrs Effie Satchell

Dearest Mickey.
No letter today, Maybe I will get one tomorrow. I received another swell box of candy from Hayle Betty and Jackie. We haven't done much today. Every time they were hunting men for a detail, Younger and Sharp would disappear. Some of the guys have started shipping already. I don't know when I will ship as yet. How is school by now; Of I hope. It is going to seem funny to see you teaching school when I come home. Well over for now. Hope I get a letter tomorrow.
Love Jr. Horace