

Dear Folks

This camp is a madhouse tonight. The camp is new, barracks new, and nearly all the men in charge are new to this camp. The've just been changing the men around in the order that we are some supposed to line up for drill so half of them had to move to another barracks. I was lucky I had my bed in on the right side of the building so I didn't have to move.

We left Leavenworth on Friday and went into Kansas City to pick up some men from Ft. Snelling Min. Then we went all over the damned R.R. to get here. There were about six or 6 or 7 hundred men on the train and we ate right on the train. I know we went through Kans, New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and then in to California. We stopped at El Paso for about half an hour. We crossed the "Silvery Colorado" River at Uma Arizona, and then came up the "Great Imperial Valley". Some of the most beautiful country I have ever seen. We stopped at the Los Angeles Railyards for about an hour. Some candy boys crawled over the fence and made a cleaning because the men on the train were all have starved for sweets--field rations all away down here. We got here about ten last night, and got about seven hours sleep.

There was a call for carpenters this morning so I got on in the company shop until noon. After dinner we went down to take a drivers test. That took us all afternoon. I passed okay but that don't mean a damd thing untill they need a lot of truck or tractor drivers. This Engineers Job looks like a tough one. They get all the dirty work like laying out roads, building bridges and the like. I guess I'll ring off for now. Don't forget to write. I am now Pvt. A.L. Hedman yeah! Co.B 22nd Engr. Camp Cooke California.