

Tampa Fla.  
June 6, '98,  
11.- P.M.

Dear Mamma:

It's an hour after  
taps and I'm quite sleepy but  
as tomorrow is my birthday and  
as I don't believe I'll have a  
chance to write, I'm at it  
now. It is quite cool tonight  
a blanket is quite comfort-  
able. I am half-reclining  
curled in my blanket in  
my "pup" tent. "Jim" - Sgt.  
Lerman is snoozing quietly  
in his half. The stars are  
very clear and everything  
is quiet. We had excellent  
stew for supper. The boys  
called it "draw-up" as it



contains 3 days scraps, Hardlack  
and black coffee completed  
supper. That sentence ought  
 to be copy-righted; it's always  
 true. I was vaccinated  
 today the boys call it  
 branding, it's sore alright.  
 (is, my arm is sore). The boys  
 are catching fish lately  
 rather large & nice. I went  
 to sleep just then.

It's awfully hot here when  
 the wind don't blow. Well  
 it's morning or rather after-  
 noon, ~~and~~ I went to sleep  
 again, so I put out my  
 Tallow and ~~went~~ to sleep  
 right.

Well this is the strangest  
 birthday I've ever had, sand,  
 heat, fleas, flies, gnats, hunger,



dirt, and an intense desire  
to walk up our front steps  
at 100-11-N.E.

Some of the boys are  
writing home about the oranges  
and bananas, and all that,  
but they are twice as good  
and twice as cheap in Wash.

No I have not got the  
blurs, as you may think but  
I am stating facts. I am actually  
enjoying myself, but I wish  
you would lay in a supply  
of stamps and let me know  
what is going on at home. I  
received Dot's letter and Papa's  
also the "dough" which I  
believe saved me from a sev-  
ere attack of sickness, because  
I ate, ate, ate. plain food though  
steak, eggs, potatoes etc.



My stomach is getting much better now, and I think it will be O.K.

Tell papa that I'll go with the regiment, and won't be left behind.

My staying up late was good training I guess as I have to do so now.

I haven't seen those ~~see~~ shirts and drawers etc. (?)

The trees here are covered with hanging moss and are very beautiful.

Well its the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> now. You see how hard it is for me to write. I'll start another tomorrow. Please hand the enclosed "M.O." payable at any X.O. to papa -

good-night  
love to all  
Henry