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## Queen, James C. (2)

James C. Queen

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2 Oct 1944

Time 2000

Ft McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

Dear Dr Tate,  
 We got your letter. We really intended to write to you as soon as we got here but I guess in the rush of things we forgot many of our most important friends and aids. One the way down here we met many of the things you talk about in discussion of the Negro and the South. We saw what type of houses the people have. I spent a little time during the past summers on farms from looking at a farm you can just about tell what type of farmer the owner is. I saw many Negro farms that had superb land, the irrigation was excellent, the rows were straight, the field well plowed and etc. To top off this excellency of the land was poor house. Not a poor home but a house for the people make the home.

This was out standing in many places. The land down here is red ish dirt or mud. I guess we get some of the Gulf Stream weather for when it rains down here it really comes down. To give you an example. Thursday of last week we were coming in to camp after being on combat problems all day. It was raining a little in drops when we left the prisoner of war camp before we could get all the way down Wyngate Hill it came down in buckets. We knew that it was needless to stop because we had been caught with our coats off. It rained so hard and kicked up so much mud that we could not see the platoon in front of us only ten yards away. We got wet to the skin. Every thing had to be rung out. This happened to us three times last week. why I was drying up Earl walked in the barracks with Gordon so all four of us are to gather

- |                |      |          |                   |
|----------------|------|----------|-------------------|
| Edwin Sizer    | Co B | Infantry | Rifle Co.         |
| Jas. Queen     |      |          |                   |
| Darrell Gordon | Co C | "        | "                 |
| Earl Rouse     | Co B | Infantry | Heavy Weapons Co. |

All in all our training is wonderful. It really tells of the Infantry is a real mans work. We have about 230 men in our company and now with the training a little over half way finished about sixty or less would be top notch Inf men. We have not even started our maneuvers in the mountains and by the time we get back many of them will have fallen out. We really have a few capable men in our Co that should not be here but that is the Army's way of doing things. Our Capt used to be in charge of Bawackis & a whole Earl was at Penn State. No one liked him there and the same thing goes here. This is his first time to command troops and I could take the burn off the street and do better. He is strictly a book Capt and he not know as much military Science as the boys in high school. He is just a desk man.

The training is hard and rough only honor cuts and courage keep you going most of the time. The desire to learn to protect your self, the desire to learn new things and because you have to keep on. The capable men have to do much less but it is still hard on them.

Right now I am on guard in of Rest Area. We just had a call from Post no 3. Some smart guy tried to jump one of our sentrys but he found out the fellow was mad & tired. After walking all day on the field, walk guard and we have a all day problem starting tomorrow at 0400. I am a act platoon sat so now I am Sat of the guard until our platoon Sat gets here. Gordon is most likely in the movies and Carl resting. I saw him while I was in the field today. We train in different areas and only see him once in a while during the day. It is most likely he will be here be five us because they only get six wks this time and more later. Most close now for I have to post the reliefs.

Yours truly yours,  
QUEEN