Dear Fiz:

Train just pulled into Ft. Wayne Station for brief halt. We passed through Alabama yesterday about 2100 hrs. I must have been sleeping when we cleared Pittsburgh. I was so tired. It was the first sleep since Saturday morning.

At 1130 Sunday, I walked around the area near the commissary looking for you and the family and your mother & Dad when I had not had goodbye. Before I could complete the search the troops arrived and I had to be off to the train again. But before leaving I told Sgt. Gander who was not accompanying us on this trip, to drive thru the area to look for you all up to the train. He drove thru the area to look for you all up to the train. The train moved down to the loading platform where the troops came aboard. The band played — attracting attention of several authors who pulled over to the side of the street and got out and came up to watch the activity. Children from somewhere about showed up— attracted by music. Then persons followed a while later, doubtlessly looking for their
Dear Elz:-

Train just pulled into Ft Wayne Station for brief halt. We passed thru Altoona yesterday about 2100 hrs. I must have been sleeping when we cleared Pittsburgh. I was so tired. It is the first sleep since Saturday morning.

At 11:30 Sunday, I walked around the area near the commissary looking for you and the family and your Mother + Dad whom I had not bid goodbye. Before I could complete the search the troops arrived and I had to be off to the train again. But before leaving I told Sgt Gordon who was not accompanying us on this trip, to drive thru the area to locate + bring you all up to the train. The train moved down to the loading platform where the troops came aboard. The band played – attracting attention of passing autoiste who pulled over to the side of the street and got out and came up to watch the activity. Children from somewhere about showed up – attracted by music. Their parents followed a while later, doubtlessly looking for their
wandering offspring. They also lingered. About thirty staff officers showed up when General Lovece got in his appearance. They swarmed all over. Meanwhile the band continued from one room to another. (In this just now it is going as this writing will be done between short papers and general instructions) I looked and looked for you. My eyes searched over numerous vehicles in the area. I finally saw Sgt. Gordon drive up in his green Nash. I called to him, he came over and stated that he drove up and down the streets in and around the Commission. He said he went all the way back to the guest house but did not see my car which he knows very well. Throughout his report the band drum continued (don't think train) its ominous boom-boom in unison with the music.

The general left the train. The train engineer got his signal. Wheels began to turn and we raced on out of Ft. Drift as I for practically scanned the now crowds of...
2) wandering offspring. They also lingered. About thirty staff officers showed up when General Devine put in his appearance. They swarmed all over. Meanwhile the band continued from one number to another. (The train just resumed its joining?: faint writing) so this writing will be done between shifts, jerks and general unsteadiness) I looked and looked for you. My eyes searched every maroon vehicle in the area. I finally saw Sgt Gordon drive up in his green Nash. I called to him. He came over and stated that he drove up and down the streets in and around the commissary. He said he went all the way back to the guest house but did not see my car which he knows very well. Thruout his report the base drum continued its its (shut. (darn this train) its ominous boom-boom in cadence with the music.

The general left the train. The train engineer got his signal. Wheels began to turn and we eased on out of Ft Dix as I frantically scanned the now crowds of
Jack and Fred got aboard for a
last chance sight of your town. Left at
12:45. I know their schedule. I
later retired to my dining room
compartment to reflect. I concluded that
you got there by 1:00 hrs and not seeing
anybody on the train believed that
we had gone ahead of schedule and so you
departed. Much to my regret.

I wanted so badly to see you and the
kids. I wanted to tell Marilyn that that
was the train on which I was going to
take that long trip I had told her about. I
wanted to chance death high in the air and
tell her to be a good girl and to grow up while
I'm gone. I wanted to hold you tightly in
my arms, kiss you and say nothing
knowing that you fully understand all without
me saying it. I wanted to kiss Father and
Mama Mother Stanton on the
cheek. So tremendous was the
emotional impact of my failure to
take
anticipate last minute disruption and
do all those things before hand that my
fears flooded my vision and my heart
vibrated uncontrollably as the whole of me
surrendered and my tense feelings were
channelized into a subdued flushed settling.
This must have lasted not less than
3) faces and lines [?] of au autos for a last chance sight of you. Train left at 1245, ½ hour behind schedule.

I later returned to my drawing room compartment to reflect. I concluded that you got there by 1100 hrs and not seeing anybody or the train believed we had gone ahead of schedule and so you departed.... much to my regret.

I wanted so badly to see you and the kids. I wanted to tell Marilyn that that was the train on which I was going to take that long trip I had told her about. I wanted to bounce Getel high in the air and tell her to be a good girl and to grow up while I’m gone. I wanted to hold you tightly in my arms, kiss you and say nothing – knowing that you fully understood all without me saying it. I wanted to embrace Daddy Stanton and kiss Mother Stanton on the cheek. So tremendous was the emotional impact of my failure to anticipate last minute disruptions and do all these things before hand that big tears flooded my vision and my chest vibrated uncontrollably as the whole of me surrendered and my tense feelings were channelized into a hushed sobbing. This must have lasted not less than
Dear to 10 minutes before starting
of the door handle to my room signalled
that other duties called.

Now that its all over perhaps
its well that we parted that way
otherwise it would have been
quite embarrassing for me to shed
tears in front of all our men and
these people. I'm afraid I would
have done just that.

Now as you know I'm not given
to crying, but only on one
other occasion can I remember
crying. That was in grief over the
death of my mother.

When you get to Philly please call
my folks & explain why I could
not visit them, but that I wanted
to. This train is making this
letter almost unreadable.

All of my love to you
and children.

Helen

C. H. Roche
seven to 10-minutes before a rattling of the door handle to my room signalled that other duties called.

Now that its all over, perhaps ‘tis well that we parted that way – otherwise it would have been quite embarrassing for me to shed tears in front of all our men and those people. I’m afraid I would have done just that.

Now as you know I’m not given to emoting, but only on one other occasion can I remember crying. That was in grief over the death of my Mother.

When you go to Pgh please call my folks + explain why I do could not visit them but that I wanted to. This train bouncing is making this letter almost incomprehensible.

All my love to you
and children
Hubby
Ivorey Cobb