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Letter from Camp Bowie, Texas, March 1, 1942

Ralph Mouw

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March 1st, 1942
H Q Btry, 1st Bn.
77th Field Artillery
Camp Bowie, Texas

Dear Folks

Sunday afternoon and time for my weekly letter home. I hope by this time Dad that your cold is all better.

We really had quite a busy week again. We have been out to the field on three different days and all three days it has been very cold. You asked if we have snow here I well yesterday it sleeted quite a bit and snowed a few flakes so you see even if we are deep in the heart of Texas its still winter and mighty uncomfortable living in

these tents.

We also made a few conditioning hikes this past week. On Wednesday afternoon we hiked about 9 miles and yesterday morning we went about 12 miles through the rain. Walking doesn't seem to bother me. As yet I haven't gotten any blisters and I don't get overly tired, although after the first hike my knee muscles were a little sore.

Well another of my officers left for school for a few weeks but he gave me \$3 before he left. So now I only have to do work for one officer.

Yesterday was pay day again in this outfit and after all the deductions were made they gave me \$23 as my monthly allowance.

After we were paid in the afternoon we were all through for the day so we went to town. We bowled a few games and did a little shopping. I had to get me some socks since my old ones had holes in. We also had a good meal again. Oh yes I also got a shave since for the last two days our camp has been without water.

Say, we are allowed to wear our garrison caps and belts again. So I wonder if you will send mine up here. Be sure and stick the cap full of paper and in a heavy box so that it won't be crushed. If you have an old visor in the house, I could

use one.

Myna sent me some candy again
this past week. I also had a
letter from Ray & Margaret and
one from Lester Sherman.

I suppose Alfred is starting
by Andrew & De Vries now isn't
he?

I must close now and write
some more letters. Please send those
things as soon as possible. Hoping
this finds you in good health

Love
Your Son
Ralph