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January 11, 1961

Dear Mom & Dad.

It all seems like a big dream.
I can't really explain how odd,
the whole thing is. One minute
you're home thinkin' about it. The next
minute you're in some godforsaken
place getting yelled at by some
jerk who's only a private 1st class.
The private first classes down here
in South Carolina are amazing.
There more bossy and they assign
Drafters to more details than the
Sergeants.

We left great neck at 8:30 a.m.
and didn't reach Fort Hamilton till 3:30.
Then we went through processing and the

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Found out that our next stop
was Fort Jackson South Carolina
where I am presently. The Southerners
hate the Northerners and they treat us
less than humans. Don't write
to me here cause. This is only a
mother processing station. They don't
know if they can accommodate the 750
draftees. So were going to be shipped
out Friday Morning. God knows where.
We got to So. Carolina by
a 4 engine transport and arrived
into Fort Jackson 11:00 or 11:30
last night. And since then it's been
literally a fight for your life. I slept
20 minutes last night in the mess hall
where we arrived then put downed us on
the hall floor as water & noise top
and south saying that we were in

Which was the biggest joke in (3)
the world. Can you imagine
750 men between the ages 19-26
fighting to get onto trucks to
get to the barracks. I fought my
way through a ~~band~~ of pushers
and got a ~~good~~ seat in the truck
and a corner next to the heater
in the rec hall we had 250
guys in a room about the size
of the din and my bedroom
and there were people sleeping on
top of people. God What an Experience!

They cut my hair today its
shorter than Cliffs. And its passing
down here in So. Carolina. I hope they
Ship me anywhere but here. May Georgia

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So far I find the Army
very aggravating, Annoying!

And Simply a One big
tremendous line of stupid
orders and filthy language
even used by the brass and

P.

I must say good by
since I am dead tired and
I got to learn how to make
a hosp. bed, for inspection
tomorrow at 04.45.

Love and kisses to all
P.S. Basic training is 8 weeks!
Love Jimmy