

HEADQUARTERS RECEPTION CENTER NO.1772  
Jefferson Barracks, Missouri



Well, it's been a rough day soldier! It was kind of tough leaving the folks this morning. . . . then WHAM, all those tests, cards and more cards to fill out, questions to be answered, getting undressed, dressed and undressed again, shots, lining up for equipment, carrying that barracks bag up the hill, instructions in bedmaking, then the movies and the Articles of War. Phew!

Perhaps you feel that the Army is pretty cold and impersonal and the rules rigid and severe. They are, for this is the army and we are a nation at war. Wars are not won by soldiers who can't take it.

But there's a place in the army for the man who is willing to give his best -- just as there is in civilian life. Tonight everything may seem strange and tough, but you'll soon be at home with army routine. You'll enjoy the physical exercise, the good comradeship of army life. A fellow can have fun in the army, too.

Ninety days from now you won't know yourself. You with the flat chest - we'll fill it out. You with the bay window -- we'll take it off without a diet. Those office complexions will burn and darken -- those stooped shoulders will snap back. You'll look, feel and be a different man.

Give yourself a pat on the back, soldier. You've a right to be proud. You are now a part of the United States Army with all of its glorious history and traditions. You have been chosen as one of those who are mentally and physically able to defend our way of life and our loved ones from our enemies.

You are part of the Army, make the army a part of you! Uphold its traditions, honor your service by your deeds. Work, learn, fight for that day when Old Glory will fly in Victory over a peaceful Nation.

Good Night Soldier, and good luck!

*Clinton E. John*  
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