

January 8, 1952

2nd Lt. Dolph C. Simons, Jr., 055013  
1st Training Battalion, Camp Barrett  
Co. "A", Marine Corps School  
Quantico, Virginia

Dear Dolph,

I notice by the calendar that this is January 8, which happens to be my half-year birthday, as I was born on July 8. However, it does not call for any kind of a present or acknowledgment. I have your letter of December 4. I am always glad to hear from you and wish that I could write a more interesting letter. I presume that you get all the news from your parents and John.

We have had snow and ice on the ground for about two weeks, but it melted some yesterday and perhaps will melt more today. So far the season has been very pleasant.

I think of you often and will be glad when your enlistment is over. Since the organization of the U. N., our nation has been doing policy work in the far corners of the earth. Perhaps this is best, but to me it seems more like an entangling alliance. We are called upon to do policy duty in the far corners of the world, where it is sometimes hard for us to know just what our particular interest in the matter may be. It seems to me that the issues in our former wars were more clearly apparent than they are today, and yet a good soldier is expected to and should obey orders.

As I have told you, your forebears have fought on the right side in every war this country has had since the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620. Some of them were small wars, but they all seemed necessary and essential at the time in which they occurred.

In less than a month from today will occur what undoubtedly will be the happiest experience of your life. I was 23 in July before I was married in November. From what I have seen of Pam, I think she will make you a darling and helpful wife.