

On Furloughs and How to Get Them

An Exegesis By An Expert, Who Reveals the Secret Technique.

Why are so many men grumbling over their hard luck in not getting furloughs? Just as though furloughs were impossible things to obtain! Only yesterday four men came up to me at different times and each said practically the same thing.

"What do you know about that?"

"About what?" I asked politely each time.

"Why, Tom, Dick and Harry went off last night on ten-day furloughs! I'm willing to bet one pie and a bag of doughnuts that none of them had a respectable excuse. Ye guns and little pistols! I wish I had the nerve those fellows had. Why, if I don't deserve a furlough more than that whole bunch put together, I'll eat my issued undershirt!"

Poor fellows. It is for their benefit and the benefit of all men like them that I write this article.

Easy—When You Know How.

The simplest thing in the world is to get a furlough. There are a hundred and one reasons why you should, and ought, to have a furlough; it is just a question of deciding which reason you want to give and then knowing how to give it.

Sick parents and dying wives are a bit drastic and should be held in reserve but how about this if you are a bachelor?:

Camp Wadsworth, S. C.
February 23rd, 1918.

From: Pvt. Kan I. Beatit.

To: C. O. Co. X, 1048th U. S. Inf.

Subject: Application for Furlough.

1. I request a ten-day furlough from Jan. 1st, 1920, (always apply well in advance in order to allow the Adjutant and Colonel plenty of time in which to make out and sign your papers) to Jan. 9th, 1920, both days inclusive, to visit New York.

2. My reasons for making this request is to enable me to make a hit with an aged grandmother about to make her last will and testament.

3. My aunt lives in Harlem, poor thing!

4. I am serving in my first, and I hope, last enlistment.

5. My aunt is passionately fond of onion and cheese salad.

6. I have sufficient funds to enable me to reach New York, where I know some one who will lend me enough to get back on.

7. Anything I can do for you in the Big City?

KAN I. BEATIT.

Make out this application in triplicate and hand it to your Top Sergeant. Then prepare for a hasty departure.

Form for Married Men.

For married men I would suggest the following, fourteen copies of which should be made out and passed around to the Colonel and his staff:

Camp Wadsworth, S. C.
February 23rd, 1918.

From: Cpl. Will U. Komacross.

To: C. O. Co. G, 1048 U. S. Inf.

Subject: Furlough.

1. I request a ten-day furlough from June 11th to June 20th, both days inclusive, with permission to visit the Hotel Manhattan, Jack's, Churchill's and Reisenweber's.

2. My reasons for making this request is to enable me to transact exceedingly important business with my wife's father, who is too old to make the trip South.

3. Mary is a perfect queen. She used to be third from the end in "Miss 1948."

4. I hope to bring Mary back with me and will introduce you to her then—if you will lend me fifty dollars.

5. I have never asked you for money before.

6. Mary writes that she thinks you must be a perfect dear.

Hoping that you are, I am,

WILL U. KOMACROSS.

It is all very simple, isn't it?

There is, however, another quite different way of obtaining a furlough, but it necessitates considerable technique and should be used sparingly.

Here is the story of what happened the first time I saw it worked.

The Fox Bitten Dummy.

There was a man in our company who had a cold. One day he became suddenly speechless. He reported at Sick Call and was rushed to the infirmary. Here he was examined but the doctors could find nothing wrong with his throat or speaking apparatus. The following day the man was still speechless.

Six doctors took the matter up in a serious way. They made another examination, filed 43 reports of 26 pages each with the Surgeon General and recommended that the man paint his feet with iodine. Still there appeared no change in the man's condition.

The next day ten doctors at the Base Hospital held a consultation, made out 51 1-2 reports in triplicate and recommended O. D. pills.

Even all of this was of no help. The man could not be made to speak. He became worried. He looked scared. The following day, while being examined by another board, he snatched a piece of paper, nervously took a pencil and wrote this pathetic appeal:

"For God's sake, send me to a specialist."

The Doctors Gasped.

The medicine men gasped. They looked at each other in amazement. And then in a chorus they answered:

"We never thought of that. The very thing."

So they issued the man a thirty-day furlough to go to New York and be treated by a specialist.

I went as far as the Spartanburg station with the poor fellow to get his ticket for him and see him safely on the train.

Just before he got on the train, a young and charming girl stepped into the car he was to occupy.

He nudged me, jumped onto the platform and just as the train was pulling out of the station, looked back and distinctly stated:

"Gee! What a peach!"

—V. R.

Co. K, 107th Inf.

FOR THE WELFARE OF NEW YORKERS.

Gov. Whitman Appoints Board of Officers to Help Men in Service.

Gov. Whitman has appointed a board of officers consisting of Lt. Col. C. J. Ahern, Lt. Col. G. W. Burleigh, Major J. N. Connolly, Captain Robert Saunders, Captain Gerald Stratton, Major Edwin W. Moore, officer in charge, for the purpose of doing everything possible for the welfare of the men from the State of New York in Federal military service.

Through the courtesy of Colonel J. Hollis Wells, commanding Seventy-first Regiment, N. Y. G., this board has secured quarters in the 71st Regiment Armory, 33d street and Park avenue, and will be accorded every assistance by brigade and regimental officers at that post. The board is desirous of having it known to all soldiers of the 27th Division that whenever they are in New York City they will be welcomed at the board's headquarters at the above address and any assistance or help which may be required will be furnished upon application.

It is the purpose of this board to do everything within its power to further the best interests of the officers and men of the 27th Division, and it is hoped that its services may be of use and benefit to them.

The board is anxious to receive suggestions as to anything that can be done for the welfare of those at Camp Wadsworth.

GOING UP!

Editor Gas Attack:

Kindly print the following:

Corporal John J. Waters, Co. E, 102d Engs., will pay fifteen cents each for one copy each of No. 8 and No. 9 issue.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

CORP. JOHN J. WATERS.