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When You Have a Registered Letter

Once upon a time we made a few remarks about the regimental barber, but we believe the postal corporal has him beat a mile. We were told there was a registered letter at the post office for us and we made 200 yards to A13 in ten seconds even-for we were broke and were expecting money. We hoped it would be a pound. The corporal made us go to the company orderly room for our notification card-and while we were gone he beat it to the officers' mess with their mail. When he came back he started to open the desk-then looked at his watch and said he would have to hurry to

catch the outgoing mail. I would have to wait until he got back-I thought I would get at least two pounds. He came back in half an hour and opened the desk. There was my letter on top of the pile and I could just smell that three pounds. Then I had to wait until he entered up the new lot. He next had to go to the orderly room with the official mail-could it be possible that I was to get four pounds? He came back and sat down at the desk with a sigh. Slowly he reached for the registry drawer, quietly inserted the key and skillfully gave it a turn. Cautiously he took out the letters and gave me a suspicious look as he handed mine to me. I tore it open on the double and-my wife wanted three pounds to get the doctor for my mother-in-law.

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