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## Letter Written by Katherine Trickey to Her Folks Dated August 7, 1944

Katherine W. Trickey

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Mon. Aug. 7, 1944.

Dear Folks,

I Certainly had a wonderful time yesterday. We had a company picnic. We left here at 1:30 in two busses and rode for about an hour out to the other side of Macon on the Fort Valley road to a big private estate, 16 yrs ago Mr. Porter went to Normandy and on his return built him a house which is a copy of a Normandy farm house. Captain Stokes went inside and said it was lovely. But he has specialized on planting and developing as many different kinds of trees + flowers as possible. He has a large green lawn surrounded by trees + shrubs, a private swimming pool. Did we have fun!! The water was perfectly clear and oh so cold - just drawn out of a 70 ft well. There was an attractive stucco bathhouse and open pavilion near the pool, + trees + shrub + lawn surrounding it. It was

very different from anything I had ever been near. More like the estates at Barbours! He had a large greenhouse with all sorts of trees & flowers, including a banana tree. He has a rose garden with "I don't know how many" different varieties nicely tagged with their names. We went swimming first, then walked around and looked at the flowers & grounds. Then had a picnic lunch and were right in the midst of it when it began to rain. The open pavilion leaked somewhat but we finished lunch there; then went swimming again in the rain; as the lightning got too close, we went into the bath house and dressed. By that time the ground was so wet and the weather looked as if it would continue to rain a long time. So Sgt Ryan called the busses to come for us early. We got home about 7 instead of 8.30 as we had planned.

On the way back some of the girls bought  
watermelon (25¢ a piece!) and we had a  
watermelon party in the barracks day room. I wish  
you could have seen us. We spread papers  
all over the floor and about a dozen of us crowded  
around. Messy oh my. juice + seeds + rinds  
all over that paper! We were in our pyjamas  
so we didn't mind getting somewhat messy. More  
fun!!

We're all tired + sleepy today!

There is a ball game tonight - (The last of the season)  
and Marjorie + I are planning to go.

Must stop now,

Love  
Kay,