

Somewhere in Seljain
Sunday, 28 Jan 1945

Florence, sweetheart:

Being certain that you will look at the enclosed snapshots before you attempt to read this letter I have every hope that you will realize that the smile in my eyes mirrors the happy thoughts in my mind as I look at you, dream about you, and attempt to express the love I have for you. Does not the scene in the background remind of the snow we loved so much while on our never to be forgotten honeymoon? Oh, my dearest, if only these photos could talk, they'd tell you much of my love and longing for the sweetest girl in the world. Mind you, I am not referring to the "Street Scene" in which I am supposed to be acting a local "Pearso". In any event, darling, these are samples of the pictures produced with Pincus' camera, and I'm certain there will be plenty of others to follow soon.

After seeing Joe off this morning I submitted a detailed report to Uncle Harry about Joe's visit with me, and I

hope you get to read the letters I wrote
him. Joe took the films with him, which
he will develop and send to his father. I
expect he will either forward a set to you
or me, but one way or another you'll
get to seeing me together. Also write Bob
and the folks to-day, and news as I sit
in Frank's home I'm waiting my only and
best sweetheart.

Will not await mail call to-day but
will pick up any letters upon my return
to barracks. To-day I took some more
snaps, and hope they come out well. Have
arranged with Joe to purchase perfume for
me as he is living in the city from whence
all perfumes flow. Have already acknowledged
13 from you, so please continue to forward
more until I tell you to stop. Advise me
as you receive packages from him. Also please
have Herb Ruben send me a small amount
of common-used U.S. and French stamps,
which I want to present to someone here.
He is a stamp collector. Please pay Herb
whatever the cost, but they should be cheap.
No doubt I'll drive you nuts with some
of my requests, but these little requests
accomplish more than money ever could
during these times.

Among other things to-day I brought
your package of smoked cheese and pine apples
with me, and some cookies, amazing these
Americans, but good. Keep the stuff flowing
and I'll continue to love you as ever. If
you have not send the maps requested
please do not, as I have already

located those I wanted!

I am very sorry to learn that Jack has been hospitalized, but perhaps treatment will be more beneficial for him under these circumstances. Do all you can to help, but don't let yourself lose spirit or hope. I wish I could offer some suggestions about insurance but I fear it would only be a wasted effort. Please keep me advised, and perhaps you'll even tell me what ails him!

Also regretted learning about Betty's brother. You did not mention whether or not he was in the service, so perhaps you'll elaborate a little in response to my request. In short kinda' let me in on what is going on in the home front. Had a long V-mail (typed) letter from Pinus yesterday, but he too relates very little, and nothing about his son. My goodness, if you folks assume the Pelzenna technique in letter writing, I'll begin to feel like a Belgian boy scout instead of an American soldier.

Have received 2 wood coverings of the Masonic ~~cap~~ insignia which I'll forward home this week. Please be careful of these, as I want to have them mounted on a wooden (black) background when I return. I'd like to keep one for ourselves, and give one to Betty, after the war.

It must be a bit distressing these days at home what with Jack's troubles, the extreme cold winter, and your own little problems with Jim and me. But, hardly, January is almost over, the cold will soon break, Spring will be here before we realize, and with the Russians pushing the Nazi noses into the frozen ground some of your problems will be solved. Every thing has an ending, and even this world mess will be over in the near future. Keep your morale and spirits high, your smile functioning, and yours and Jim's health good. That "street scene" is demonstrative of my sense of humor at present, and you'll have some ribs from the stories I have to relate.

Note I am still numbering all my letters. Please observe that you receive all, and advise if you do not. Kiss Jim and my folks, give my very best to Helmy, El. Bees and all our mutual friends, and I'll kiss you in mind with all my love and adoration

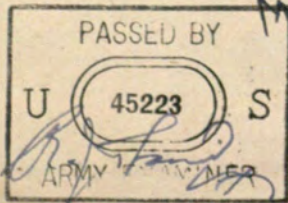
As ever
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