

Belgium
28 February 1945

Florence, darling:

It sure is a brighter day when I receive a couple of air-mail letters from my only sweetheart. Not so much because it reminds me of your cheery smile, since I hardly need anything to do that, but because it brings you that much closer to me. Your well-written, well-expressed letters are really heart warming, and while I realize how difficult it is to write a lengthy letter often, please keep up the good work.

Your letters dated Feb. 5th and 10th arrived today, in addition to your package mailed first class. The latter had me wondering since I was going to get this before reading the mail. I finally decided it contained films, but was decidedly happier to find the neckties. I don't need any films so please do not send any. Also received an anniversary card from the folks with \$2.00 enclosed, and a V-mail from Ake Deomon dated Feb. 16th. It continues to puzzle me that I should receive such recent mail from almost anybody, and your mail. The only letters I really receive, are always delayed. Oh well - patience is a part of this whole deal. The chocolate bar arrived in good shape and I enjoyed eating it. Thanks so much.

May I suggest dating your letters as near after the date on the envelope varies from one to three days from the day the letter is written. The sewing kit you enclosed increases those I already have to five, so I'm well stocked on

this tent. also have plenty of clothes, coat,
and all personal items. Supply sergeant takes
care of our needs on this score, and I even
managed to get several handkerchiefs. I
wonder if you ever got my request for an
overseas olive drab cap, size 6⁷/₈. I may be
able to get one here, but it's been difficult
up to the present. Please advise.

I wrote you in a previous letter to
continue the practice of buying a War
Bond monthly, but I think that is enough
for the present. Also purchase one for Jim
every third month, but we are at present
buying enough, including my bond allotment.
I think we will be able to use a lot of
cash when this is over, and I prefer not
to have too much tied up in bonds and
securities.

Please send Harry Meyranitz a small
contribution to the Masonic War Chest, the
Lodge is soliciting at least a dollar from each
member, but I think you should forward
a \$2.00 check. It is my opinion that
Masonic News will not send the usual
frozen letter of acknowledgement to this
contribution.

Enclosed you find 2 more snapshots
taken in Paris, and I sure hope you
received all those I sent you in the past
10 days. Also sent several to the folks, and
am having some duplicates made to send
to Priscilla. The souvenir pin is for your
sister Eleanor. I hope she likes it. I

am trying to obtain several more of these, but I have to go to another nearby city to get them. Also sent my mother a Louis souverein fin in an air-mail letter to-day. Let me know when you receive this, and she hers. If I get any more such fins I'll send them to you, and you can distribute as you please.

It was nearly a joy reading a letter only about 2 weeks old, and learning that you and Jim are in excellent health. No doubt the coal and oil shortage affected you and everyone else back home, but as long as you see the bright side of things, and you are both well and happy to a degree, I guess a shortage of heat did not annoy you too severely. The civilian population had it rough over here, but they too are happy the winter is over, and Spring and Summer on its way.

Your vivid descriptions of Jim keep me well informed as to his steady improvement physically as well as mentally. It seems to me that he has your happy disposition, sense of humor, and ability to smile easily and readily. With assets like those inherited, and an environment of love and harmony to grow in, I can readily visualize his becoming an asset

to the community, a great son, and a splendid character. Immediately upon my return we will do something about increasing our brood —!

I continue healthy like anything, miss you terribly, but holding out patiently for the end of the war. There's no telling how long it will take me to get back home after V-Day, but I'll manage to sweat that out, when the time comes. In the interim you and Jim stay well, have fun, drink an extra Martell for me occasionally, and don't worry.

I presented Frank, his wife and son some souvenirs of Paris when I returned from my recent trip, and they haven't gotten over it yet. When I give them these 3 ties to-night, I expect they will never quite understand the generosity of the Americans. Here they were only trying to make feel at home, and the packages and gifts you have sent just overwhelm them. Keep up the good work, my darling.

Kiss Jim and the folks for me, give my very best to everyone, and always remember I love you
as ever,
George

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