

King, Austria  
 Saturday, 1 Sept 45.

Flavence, Darling:

Under ordinary conditions and in normal times I would say a trip overseas with the opportunity to live in 5 different countries would add something to me. Yet, the price I had to pay to see Europe was not worth the trip. Leaving you behind is like trying to write a letter without arms. I know life consists of putting in, and taking out an equivalent amount, but they forced me to put in this time. Perhaps as the years keep adjusting our haphazard life together I'll be able to discover the benefits of this separation. Right now all I know is that I missed you for the past two years.

This was another good day for mail from home. Received your air mail letters dated August 22nd, 23rd and 24th, together with the enclosures. Total to date received is \$9.00, although you mention \$11- in your 24th letter. I have not yet received your letter dated Aug 21st. Thanks so much for your family and splendid cooperation in this matter. Do not send me any funds via a money order as I don't want it that way. Too much trouble cashing them. The practice of enclosing a small amount in each letter is exactly the way I want it done. Please do not try to do it any other way. Also received one of your packages containing tea, coffee, cocoa, dried soup, pudding and candy. This came just



in time for me to take it along to Belgium  
when I leave on the 7th. - I saw hope they  
received your package by the time I get there.  
If convenient please send them another,  
consisting of items I recommended in a  
previous letter, as soon as possible.

Getting Jim an alpine suit made of leather  
is proving as difficult as getting a discharge. A  
man promised to have a suit made up for me,  
even drew the design, and I've been unable to  
even meet him since. He just never shows up. "Don't  
trust a Kent", I know, but I can't do business  
with anyone else here. Fortunately I met a Jewish  
woman from Vienna who promised to have a  
pair made up for Jim. She has a relative in  
Long Beach, who we will contact when I get  
home. I'm sure they'd like to know that their  
woman, brother and folks are still alive.  
Will let you know how I make out this  
time -

Under separate cover I sent you  
stamp envelope #8 to-day, and also sent a copy  
of your magazine rolled up. On many occasions  
in the past months I have sent you the weekly  
copy of your - I wonder if you have been  
receiving them - please advise. The stamps  
enclosed are valuable, as are others en route.  
Please be very careful with them. I intend  
converting most of them into cash when I  
can. also advise when Herb pays you for the  
stamps I sent him recently. On Aug 14th I  
sent you a \$25.00 money order, and another for  
\$50. - on the 29th. Advise when received. also



acknowledge package I sent you Cee of the packs  
on the 27th. Am trying to send as much as  
possible home so that I can travel light  
when my train comes. It will be here sooner  
than we realize - so keep smiling.

To. day's mail also brought an air-  
mail letter from Bob dated 20 Aug, and one  
from Jules. Bob assured the latter's ways  
and thoughts bother me little. At present Bob's  
status is in a state of confusion, but before  
long I expect someone will make up his mind  
as to what is to be done with men in his  
category. Patrol duty in the occupational forces  
would be a rotten deal, but, darling, it  
would be a thousand times better than  
Combat duty during the war. Perhaps his luck  
will carry him thru to a civilian status.

I am so pleased to read that you  
are in good spirits, and that you are in a  
buying mood. Do buy anything you need,  
want or desire for you and Jimmy. That's  
what the money is for, and do not hesitate  
to use any of the funds I sent or sent you.  
Your advice about the "bonus talk" is Congress  
is no less pleasing, and I hope they do  
something about it soon. The \$300 Trusting  
out pay will help, but in many cases will  
be peanuts to what a soldier will need to  
get started again, especially if he has a family.

Your vacation has been coming to a  
close in a blaze of happiness and joy. I'm very  
glad that you and Jim are in such fine health

and spirits. I know you and Jim are good pals, and I suppose I'll just have to mosh in on the set-ups, if you don't mind. However then there seems to be more pleasing, and from all accounts your Lammert was better than a good mistreatment. Weather here has been delightful the past 2 days, and all in all the summer was not too hot. We wear our woaden uniforms, having no others, so I guess I should be thankful for the moderate temperatures.

Last night's picture was D. Barbara and Gene Kelly in "Xmas Holiday". She sang for about 2 minutes, and he didn't dance, and the picture just copped. To-night I'll probably see J. Garland in "The Clock", or go to a USO show. Coffee and doughnuts follow as usual. Sean and I will be holding hands as we sigh to the romancing on the screen, if only that day will hurry. Until then - patience.

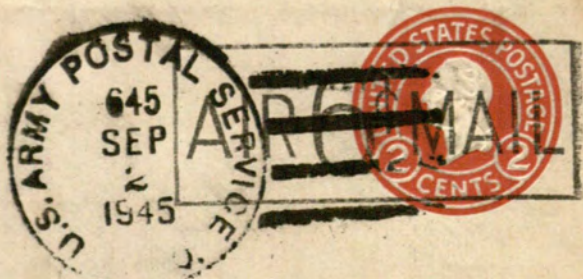
Miss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you in mind. My very best to your kinfolk and mine. Incidentally no word from Pop in over 10 days. Is everything okay? All my love and devotion to the sweetest girl in the world.

as ever.

JG



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