



AMERICAN RED CROSS

- 157 -

Hannah
11 June 1945

Florence, sweetheart:

If you could only see how these
German people greet the remnants of the
return German army you would feel
grateful that your only source of worry
is the exact day when I too will come
home. As German soldiers, who have been
discharged by the American Army Discharge
Centers, arrive in town on foot, bicycle
or on army trucks they are immediately
surrounded by the populace who inquire
where, whence, whether, which army, do you
know so and so - and many other
questions close to their heart. You see,
Berlin, Germany has no postal system since
the allied armies invaded the home of the
Master Race. Accordingly, mothers, wives
children do not know whether or not their
loved one is alive, dead or prisoner of war.
They have no alternative but to wait, wait,
ever wait, never knowing whether the moment
will bring their man, or in what condition.
It's not that I am feeling sorry for these
characters that I mention this, but least
the realization that this is not going to
happen to us makes me, and no doubt you,

feel that the short wait will be easy
to overcome in preference to the laser's
unhappy lat. Jimmie seems to drag at present,
but have a good summer, and before we
realize it the average limit will be
lowered to my level. These letters you
write are in fact out, so keep it up even
though you find it difficult to write.

Very little mail came thru today
so of course I too received nearly a letter.
Since I am all caught up on my letter
writing the only letter I'll write to-night
will be to my ever wonderful pen-
pal - you. There is little of news to
relate this evening but I'll try to
keep your interest until you finish reading
the letter.

The bundle I packed last night
was mailed this morning to your care
of my pap. In the next letter I write
him I'll tell him all about it, and
request that he keep it in safekeeping
for you, until you pick it up in the car.
To-night I had a wooden box made
to ship you a Nazi officer's penicard.
It makes a handsome souvenir, also
included in the box 3 German beer place
Coastline, and a Nazi Mother Medal.
From the best information I can gather these
medals were presented to Mothers bearing
many children for the Fuehrer. I have the
same idea in mind but instead of
giving you a medal and a War. I intend



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substituting love, peace and happiness.
If all the packages I've sent you in the
past 6 weeks arrive you will need a
small warehouse, but please try to back
on to every thing until I get home to make
distribution as we decide.

after chow to night several of us
walked to a beer-hall just opened by the
army for soldiers. It's an old place, not
unlike Max's on 86th St; there's a few
price German band, and franklin to wait
on us. The beer is fair, but the music
is too dirig-ble, and the franklin have
the hate for us frozen on their expressions.
However its a place to go to, talk and sip
Coke here. Cost is but 1 mark per schooner,
no tips, and to-night I took the 3 coasters
which I enclosed in to-night's package-

With the preparation of to-night's
bundle I have completed sending all the
trifles and souvenirs I have other than
a Belgian automatic pistol I have. Since
it is not permitted to send concealable
weapons thru the mail I'll endeavor to
bring it home with me. It has a broken
spring in the trigger but is such a
nice reminder of World War II. I hope I
manage to get it home. Did you ever
give my folks one of those transportation
Corps insignias?

I sent papa a cable to-day for Father's Day and hope it arrived in time. In previous letters I requested you to attend to Father's Day, birthday and wedding anniversary this month, so I hope you managed to get the letters in time. Let me know what you did - please - and thank you so much.

Hope you and Jim are having a perfectly lovely time - enjoying grand weather, having fun - and swinging via hammock. Enclosed some more snops, and awaiting another roll from the developer. Probably get them next Monday or so. Hope you enjoyed all there I sent in the past 3 weeks.

All goes well with me, had creamed chicken for lunch and hot dog for supper. Watching my diet to avoid putting on too much weight. This soft life, no worries, no hills, no nothing, reminds me of a work house let out in fortune with nothing to do - but I'll be back in harness soon. Stay well, kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you in mind. My best to everyone

as ever

George

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AMERICAN RED CROSS

Brooklyn,
JUN 20
2:50 PM
1945



VANDERVEER