



UNITED STATES ARMY



Friday. 12-31-43.

Florence, Sweetheart:

The year 1943 will be one we will long remember, because it separates us from each other; and I can conceive of nothing that has affected me more in our life together than this enforced separation. And yet, darling, maybe it will have done much to make the future brighter, and with greater understanding of each other than any other event could have done. It has made me, more than ever before, realize that losing you is a major factor in my life, and that keeps me brave, courageous and hopeful. I will do anything, endure all hardships so that one day I can return home to my beloved one, and say that just being with you is sublime happiness. Darling, may we never have to suffer the hardships of separation and loneliness again, and I hope that before another year rolls around again, this world holocaust will have ended, and we will spend all the New Year's to come together with each other, our bread, and our kinfolk. So, on this infamous New Year's eve, I give you a toast,

"Damn 1943, and may 1944 once again see the lights go on again, not only in our household but all over the world."

You can gather that I am somewhat in a sentimental mood to-night, but I want you to know I am staying awake to-night until midnight to wish you and Sunny Jim a "Happy, Healthy, Victorious New Year". To-day I received 3 packages; one from Bessie, which several Jewish buddies and I used for a picnic supper in our suite; one from the 1939 Masters team; and one from the Fellowship club. The latter two boxes, together with several other contributions of boxes, some Coca-Colas, and a great deal of humor, were blended into a New Year's Party in our barracks by the boys who did not go to town. We are having a good time in a dull sort of a way, but believe me every son, every husband, and every father among us, is home in spirit with his family. Bessie's package sure was a honey, and I wrote her a letter thanking her for same.

I also received to-day 19 letters and cards, some of them pretty old, and well handled; but as yet those two letters dated 12/1 and 12/10 containing my present from you have not arrived. I am still hopeful, but sure wish I could relieve your worrying about them. In any event I do wish you would continue mailing some more money, just as I requested. I received another dollar thus totaling \$4 - also received those heart-warming snaps of you and Jim, and sure was glad to see that you are both looking so well. Jimmy really looks like a big boy, and I guess by the time his daddy sees him he will be able to talk a little better than he does now. You are looking keen, and just like I love to



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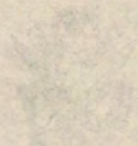
See you always - smiling. I cannot quite understand what delays my mail to you now, as I mail you a letter daily. Please note if my letters follow exactly in chronological order, and length of time that elapses between my writing them and your receiving the letters. Did you receive the letter with the 2 insignias? Did you fix the vacuum and want you to buy or spend whatever you need. As for that dividend check for \$40, your mother is discussing with you, tell her to hold on share to cover any interest charges she incurred the past few months. I think its only fair this way. Did you find the vault key?

Will write more to-morrow, and until then, with every wish for you and Jimmy's future good health and happiness in the new year dawning, and with a kiss in mind, as ever,

G. G.



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