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King, Austria
20 July 1945.

Florence, darling:

To-night I propose to write you in better spirits and mood than usual. It is not that I am at all depressed or down-in-the-mouth, but the event of the evening put me in a happy frame of mind, and I shall try to capture the spirit I'm in so that my letter will convey to you how I feel. It was my good fortune to learn that a Philharmonic Orchestra was to play in town for the occasion. Accordingly after a small sherris I meandered along the Danube to the Red Cross Doughnut Center, had a cup of coffee, 2 doughnuts and a glass of iced water. Then since none of my comrades wanted accompanying me I proceeded to the theatre in which the concert was to take place. A small, dainty place, styled somewhat like the Metropolitan Opera House in miniature. Found myself a choice seat in the center boxes of theloge and then went into a reverie with you on the seat adjacent to mine. It was like old times, sweetheart, to have you at my side, listen to sublime music, and forget everything else. The theatre was not quite filled, and the only other person I knew was the Chaplain, upon spotting me he changed his seat to one on the other side of us.

The enclosed hand-bill gives you a brief résumé of who conducted and what was presented. For about 1½ hours we had a grand time, and I could even feel your hand in mine. Being in love with you has me day-dreaming all the time, sweetheart, but grateful am I for the privilege. The Chaplain later advised me that he understood that the "Salzburg Festival" is to be presented this year around August 15th. Since part of my company is now stationed there I have every hope and intention to see and hear some of that world famous musical treat. Please send the enclosed program, and also any subsequent ones I may send.

The orchestra consisted of approximately 55 men and a female harpist. The men were apparently dressed in their best civilian clothes, which had undoubtedly seen their best days years ago. Many of them were of the long-haired type musician we are accustomed to associate with Viennese music, but most of them looked as though they had seen hard days and times. This music is truly international in spirit and culture, and I'm happy that a concert is presented each Friday night with a Guest Conductor on the podium. It's a most welcome

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The first of the year was a very cold one, and the snow lay on the ground for several weeks. The weather was very disagreeable, and the people were much distressed. The crops were all killed, and the cattle were starved. The people were forced to live on the roots of the trees, and the children were dying of hunger. The king was very angry, and he sent the army to punish the people. The army was very large, and they were very brave. They fought many battles, and they won many victories. The people were very afraid of the army, and they fled from them. The king was very pleased with the army, and he gave them many rewards. The people were very happy, and they began to work again. The crops were all saved, and the cattle were healthy. The people were able to live on their own, and the children were no longer dying. The king was very happy, and he gave the army many more rewards. The people were very grateful to the king, and they loved him very much. The year was a very good one, and the people were very happy.

The second of the year was a very warm one, and the snow melted. The weather was very pleasant, and the people were very happy. The crops were all growing, and the cattle were healthy. The people were able to live on their own, and the children were no longer dying. The king was very happy, and he gave the army many more rewards. The people were very grateful to the king, and they loved him very much. The year was a very good one, and the people were very happy.

relief to the heat-up movie shows they subject us to.

Another day has come and gone and yet no letters from you. It is expected that the mail will come there to-morrow or Sunday, so I guess I can continue to exercise patience for a little while longer. I am C.Q. to-morrow (Saturday) night, and will have plenty of time to read and write letters, so I sure hope the mail comes there as hoped for. Was not too busy this afternoon, which gave me an opportunity to write & enclose a reply to her July 1st letter. Since it is merely a repetition of many of the facts I have been wanting you I forwarded it free mail. Please let me know how long free mail takes to reach you these days; perhaps I'll send some of my other mail this way if the time is not much longer. Not to you of course, but to some of my lesser correspondents.

The weather has been beautiful the past week or ten days, and I sure hope you and Jim are having a wonderful time. Apparently there is no severe heat wave at present at home, so perhaps the country is more comfortable. I hope Jim is growing tall and strong, with a desire to learn about things. Teach him all you can, Ray, and don't let him run the show. There's so much for him to learn that no time must be wasted. I sent him a couple of animal picture cards I picked up in a stationery shop, and also sent you some more scenes of King under separate cover in a franked envelope.

There's little of interest to relate to-day which I have not already discussed in Jim's and letters. Loving and adoring you is still my favorite motif in life, with a strong desire to be with you, kiss and cover you, so that we'll never again think of being apart. It will come about soon, my pretty darling, and never lose sight of the fact that this is our year. Continue to write those ever important average letters, and those even more important letters of love to me.

Kiss Jim for me, stay well, have fun and keep smiling. My very best to everyone, and please keep in close touch with my facts. I do hope they are visiting you wherever possible. If there's anything I can do for you please advise. I continue to love and adore you always,

as ever,

George

Handwritten text, likely a letter or document, written in cursive script. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting it was written on a single sheet of paper and then scanned or photographed. The handwriting is dense and fills most of the page.

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