

Tuesday, Jan 30

Dearest beloved,

Hope you're well and not too dislike these
wintry days. As always, I miss you so much but
have to be thankful for my precious Jimmie with
his sweet ways and new phases. We love you
with both our hearts and wish you'd hurry the
war's ending so that we may live our happy lives
again. It seems like ages since I spoke to you, kissed
you and said our casual good-byes. Just imagine
those moments when we'll see each other again
and I just know that I'll be speechless and
oblivious to all around us. This dream will come true
and soon, I hope.

Had a fairly busy day and it's good to sit
down and relax with you. There was no mail this
morning or afternoon but I did mail another
package to you containing 30 cigars, 6 hankies (used)
2 boxes Melomar cookies and candy - also part of the Time
Jim and I did get out for a morning stroll and
slushed through the wet streets. We had an
early lunch and Jim had an afternoon nap. While
having lunch, Mennie called to say that her mother
in law Joe Stickman had just come to Halloran
Hospital from overseas. She and I were so
thrilled and excited that we cried for joy. Soon
after she brought down Helen and Ann (Ray's

little girl) and I watched both kids most of the afternoon while Minnie went to visit Joe. Jim awakened later and had a grand time playing with the girls. He's sure popular with them and they promised to come more often to play in "Gimmie's Mommy's house". Betty came in to see me in the afternoon too. At present she's at Ben's sister's house and will be home next week again.

The folks are well and Pat is still nearly. This evening Sam called and is well, his folks are leaving for California and he'll be seeing us over the week-end. He received a letter from you dated Jan. 1st. Billy also called tonight and he's fine too. If you need films, write to me at once for the size and I'll do what I can to obtain them. My family is well, Thelma is in better spirits and Maurice hasn't arrived yet. Winnie spent part of this evening with me and related the events of the day - also the visit to Joe. He's well, the luckiest one out of a mine explosion and will be completely well in a few months. Just a few broken bones and he's on the mend.

Weather is nicer than it was last week and it's only a few more weeks to Spring and flowers again. Take good care of yourself and remember I love you with every breath I take. Good night, sweetheart.
All my love and devotion to you and hugs and kisses from Jim Yours always, Howard

Wednesday eve. 1/31

Large, darling,

This morning I received the Dec. 31st copy of Stars and Stripes. It was quite interesting to read and I noted the improvement in the paper since the last issue you sent. No other mail but there's always to-morrow. We all eagerly await every letter from you and that includes the family, our friends, acquaintances and don't forget Jimmie and me.

At home all is fine and Jimmie and I are just waiting for our dearest Daddy to return. He's better fixed out and this morning Jim and I ventured out for just a little air and sun. All afternoon we played, wrote some checks and I'm writing to real estate agents in Orange County and other places nearby for a summer place. Jimmie helped me glance over a map of New York State and we had some laughs pronouncing some names of towns and mountains. I also called Mr. Petroff, the owner of Glenmere, who I know for many years and he advised that I get in touch with him again next month about a country cottage. Will keep you informed on all the developments but it may be more of a job than we hoped for. The folks are fine and I've wrote you a

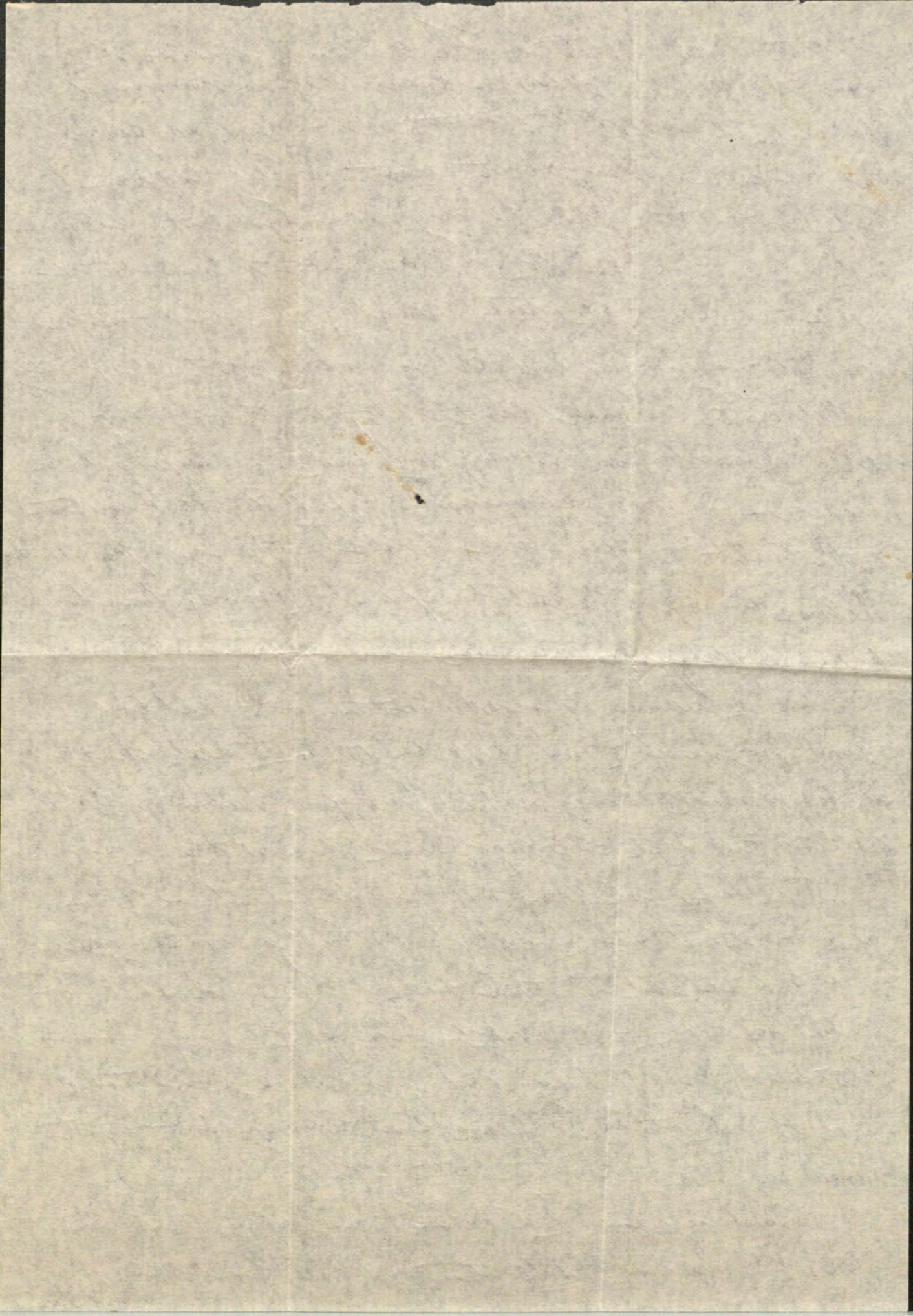
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letter last night with a stamp enclosed
for the box of cigars. I guess Pop is worried
because he forgot the stamp but here we go,
the things we worry about most rarely happen.
Bob wrote them that he may be in for the week-
end if it's possible. I'm writing to Bob to-
night and hope he stays around for many months.
Love to Sonny today and all is well with her family.

My sister Eleanor came early in the evening,
helped me with Jim and supper, and is staying here
overnight. In the morning I expect to go downtown
to the vault to deposit my bonds of the past few months.
Helma is keeping herself busy and Maurice hasn't
arrived yet from overseas.

We're sewing to night, listening to all the
good programs and expect to go to bed shortly.
I bought some lovely handkerchiefs for you that I'm hand-
rolling and hope you come home to use them soon.

The days are going by quickly and I love
you more and more daily. Naturally, I miss you
but I'm resigned to this bad dream and hope to
wake up soon and find you once more in my arms.
Stay well, my darling, and Jim and I will take
care of each other. Please don't worry about us at
home and all will turn out well.

Good night and Eleanor sends her love to
you. All my love and devotion and kisses from Jim & Eleanor
Alyssa
Hathaway



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