

King, Austria
Wednesday, 1 August 45.

Flowers, sweetheart:

To-day I feel about as thoroughly deflated and sold out as the former Nazi army. It is better that it happened to-day than at some future date, and I want to thank you for finally lighting the torch that should enlighten me for the balance of my days. I had it coming to me for a long time, and I'm glad it's over. Your July 18th and 19th letters reached me to-day. It was all the mail I received, but there were volumes contained in your expressions of fidelity, loyalty and love. Bravo, my pretty darling, you put it to me in no uncertain terms, and I'm glad I can take it. I need plenty understand how you feel about your mother and me, not that I ever doubted you, but at least I know you appreciate the facts. Here no further concern on this score, dearest, because I'll leave my part feelings on this side of the ocean. You have taught me to temper my thoughts and opinions of the adverse side of a person, and be thankful for the brighter aspects. And that's the way it will be. Our world of tomorrow must and will contain only the loppier features of the past, and a better and more complete understanding of life and our fellow-men. If nothing else this war will not have been fought in vain by us.

I enjoyed reading to-day's letters because they contained much to discuss. One incident I'd like to write a few words about, namely that butcher character who has so much meat. Whenever I was stationed in the states or overseas there were always a plethora of service men's wives ever ready and willing to go out with any available man. There are the same women who cheat anyway during all times. Men take advantage of a war time to have surplus fun, and take advantage of every woman. I know he's been successful in many of his advances, especially in the Besant circuit. However, darling, if a woman resents such a person, it is my opinion that he ought to be put in to his place. I am not trying to become heroic or even dramatic, but in the past 21 months I have learned to hate certain types of people, have no qualms about inflicting pain or worse, with either knife, razor, pistol or rifle, and while it may be a while before he can be taught a lesson, merely point him out some time to me. I'm sure any GI who has been overseas will gladly lend a hand. I am certain you will take good care of yourself, but continue to be careful.

The snafu you enclosed in your letter were really swell, and I feel reassured that you and Jim are doing just fine. Oh, I know it's a long time, and we're both so anxious to be with each other. It is expected that within a day or two the army will announce its new critical score. I am hopeful that perhaps

same classification of the average limit will also be included in the announcement. It is almost impossible for soldiers to write directly to their Senators, as such mail is supposed to go thru regular channels. However letters from father back home, relatives and families have a greater effect than anything a soldier would write. Every soldier of every age, everywhere, wants to get out, but we are trying to push them into releasing the older men. I am sure you should know more about the Army's plans and in Venice, and then perhaps you will be able to rest from your letter writing efforts.

Before I forget to write about it, I want to remind you to advise me about a week or 10 days in advance the date you intend returning home from the Country. I'll re-direct my letters to Brooklyn, also any funds, bonds or packages I may accumulate between now and then. I'm delighted to know that the 2 allotment checks arrived, but you did not mention delivery of the bond. You also have not acknowledged receipt of a \$20.00 money order I sent you about the 1st or 2nd of July. I ordered another \$35.00 money order to-day, which I'll send along as soon as I get it from the mail clerk.

Under separate cover to-day I sent you the first of about 5 or 6 envelopes containing most of the Nazi + Austrian stamps I've picked up over here. Each envelope contains a note and the number thereon, in addition to some snapshots I am returning to you for safekeeping. Also sent you in another envelope via a free mail the last letter I received from Frank, Jr. I intend mailing an envelope containing stamps one each day until they're all gone. Please advise when, as, and if they arrive. Snapshots have not been completed yet, but don't despair, they'll come then soon.

The enclosed map showing the line-up of the U.S. Army in Germany and Austria should interest you, as it will give you a pretty good idea as to where I'm situated. At present we are the only Ry. open. But in Austria, but we are at the present definitely not slated for occupation. This means I may come home with the 735th when it leaves, or may be transferred to another outfit. I think the average limit will soon help them to decide my case. Well, anyway, I continue to hope, because I know damn well that this is sure year - Surely they'll cooperate that much.

I am all accounts you are having quite a rainy spell, and I suppose that will affect your and Jim's sun tan. I suppose however that the sun will be out long enough to help you get well browned. Glad to learn that the Rasens are well, please convey my best to them, as usual. We'll fix Billy up just dandy when I get

home. Thanks for saving these air mail envelopes, and try to send
these requested commemorative stamps pronto. Any you can get in
blocks of 4, 8, 16 or 25, was paper between them and ship air mail.
This town is full of stamp dealers and collectors, and I wouldn't want
them to miss our latest issues.

The snapshot showing Jim and the car warmed the
cockles of my heart. I am so pleased that your income is
sufficient to enable you to maintain the same standard of living,
and still enjoy a long summer vacation. You know that my folks
and Bob had been told that my firm was contributing to your
support. It was a chief concern of those three in addition to you
and me, and I feel sure if E. L. had not arranged it for us that
Bob and my folks would have insisted upon keeping. Of course,
dearest, you would not have needed it, but at least they wanted to
be sure all was taken care of. If Sam and Kay were told, someone
break his word. If you feel that I am desirous of keeping the
matter a secret from your sisters and mother for any ulterior
motive, you have my permission to tell them anything or all
about the financial arrangement. I thought we had agreed it
was wiser this way to avoid any petty jealousy and differences
between you and your sisters. However I leave the whole matter
to your discretion, and do not even intend to give it a second
thought. All my mental efforts are devoted to dreams of you
and Jim, and getting out of the army. —

As usual, I'm healthy, thinking only of you and
home, and doing as little as possible. Kiss Jim for me, and
tell him you're in mind with all my love and devotion. Say
my best to your mother and sisters.

as ever,

George

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