



AMERICAN RED CROSS

143

Florence, dearest:

Hamm -
28 MAY 1945.

Each day brings new hope and further confirmation that your opinion that I'm doomed to stay in the Army until the Japs are defeated is too pessimistic. I know only too well how patient and brave you have been during this trying period. We had all hoped for a quick discharge when the Nazis surrendered, and then came the joint system. Well honey, believe you me, I never expected to get out on points, but I felt sure, and still feel more optimistic, that I will be discharged because of my age - and what's more this year - our year. Don't lose hope, darling, it's in the cards, and a little more patience will pass it to you. Just keep that smile working overtime, because you must not lose the art of keeping Jim and me in good spirits. He and I will give you every opportunity for joy and happiness, and one of these days - soon.

I drew a blank in mail call to-day, but you must agree I cannot complain about mail these days. Found comfort in re-receiving your air mail received yesterday. Perhaps by the time this arrives you will have moved to the country so I hope you have arranged to have the mail forwarded to you, also hope the packages I sent you also arrive in good condition, and

are in good hands until I can pick them up.
As best as I can remember you have about
5 or 6 packages enroute to you. I'm particularly
interested that the mirror, Chirichella bagel
and your aunt's camera arrive undamaged.
Please be sure to advise when received. Have
the makings of another bundle or two, and hope
to get them off in a few days.

The package received yesterday sure made
a hit with the boys living in the house. I
don't care too much for the gift selection, but
the mints and Barton's sure hit the spot.
Next I add I passed out the gift, but hoarded
the other chocolates for a Cpl. Hoff. Eating one of
these cherries was out of this world, and I
intend making this supply last week. We are
getting our PX rations again; they include
Hershey chocolate, gum, soap, cigarettes, tooth-
paste and a bunch - no charge, but I hear
this gratis ration will cease as of this week.
at present there is nothing I need, so after you
have filled the request of my recent letter please
send no more bundles. If my request reaches
you while away in the country forget it,
because I can do all right without it. Any-
way I expect to be home before the year ends.

Thanks so much for the stark prices,
and please continue this practice. Don't send
any more films, and I'll probably send you
my stock of 116 film. I have 9 rolls and no
camera for them since returning your aunt's.
The two I have now are a 120 and a 620. The
enclosed snaps taken in Germany are a fair



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sample of the pictures the 120 takes. One of these days I send this camera home, and send the 610. The latter camera has a leather case which makes it more desirable.

It was grand to learn that Jim's neck has practically cleared up. I expect you and he will have a swell time together this summer and I sure hope the place has a hammock, or that you buy one for us. There's absolutely no doubt in my mind that this will be an important feature in our future life together. Joy to put a little beef on both your kids, and do yourselves up brown. There's nothing to worry about for the present so make the most of it. Jim's actions will probably reflect yours, so have fun, and I'm sure Jim will try ever so hard to keep your spirits high.

Supper to-night consisted of baked beans, since we had fresh meat for lunch. I guess they were not prepared just so as I developed a heart-burn after supper. Well, a few pieces of your chocolate mints fixed me up fine, and now I'm okay. Although not all the chew is to my liking I must admit it rarely bothers me. Yesterday for the first time since our arrival in England I had tomatoes. They were about the size of

our egg tomatoes, but were delicious and a
real treat. I ate 7 of them, but only 2 were
allotted each man.

Life is plenty monotonous here these
days. The G.I. movies is the only source of
entertainment, and not too reliable. Some nights
the film fails to arrive. We have a radio,
take walks among the ruins, and to-night I
met the first Germans since my arrival in
Germany. They were laying under tombstones
in a cemetery we visited - but the flowers
and ivy were pretty.

Hope Bob saw much of you and Jim
while he was home, because I know he's
quite fond of our rascal. The kid's vocabulary
and latest phrases must have you on your toes,
but let the rascal have fun, as long as he does
learn to hate and kill. Are my folks in better
spirits these days, or is Bob's future got them
down? I sure hope they decide to visit you
during the summer.

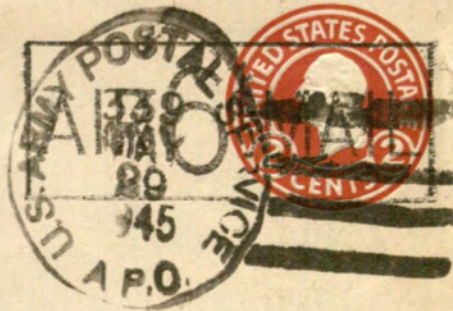
The days are long, dreary, and so are the
nights, but never fear we'll make up all these
lost moments soon. Kiss Jim and the folks
for me, give my best to everyone, and I'll
keep you in mind, ever mindful of how much
I love and adore the sweetest wife in the
world.

As ever

George

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