

Thursday 2-10-44

Florence, dearest:

This morning upon awakening I had a most peculiar feeling of security. In a flash it dawned upon that I was part of the best army in the world, and that made me feel good. But, beyond that I also sensed down deep that not only did I have a sweetheart and wife to love, and dream about, but also that this great mass of men was gathered for the sole purpose of protecting not only our country, but also our little private world. I am deeply in love with you, darling, and realize only too well that if we cannot live our own lives as free people, our feeling of love will be deprived from us. That would be worse than loss of freedom; so let us envision the other side of present-day conditions, and realize that all this will not be in vain. Someday soon I hope, we will carry on our deepest feelings and emotions together, and as a result of my present day efforts perhaps we will make it certain that James and all children will also have the same freedom to practice the finer instincts of life, and find love as we found it.

Your Monday letter arrived to-day, and although I was sorry to learn that Jimmy didn't go through his paces just as you wanted have wanted him to, I am not surprised he acted as he did. You can readily see he inherited some of his father's traits. Glad you had the desire and opportunity to visit up there, because I'm sure you needed the change in scenery. Ted had he fell and banged his hip up, but boys will be boys, you know. He should be happy with his new toys, and I hope he likes the one

I sent him. It won't be long, honey, before he will be talking to me over the phone, and then the fun will start. The calls will probably last much longer than they do now, and besides it will only be a few months more before I will be seeing you again, if all goes according to schedule.

Little of importance to relate to-day. Received no other mail, and I'm glad since I don't have to reply, needing all my spare time for studying. Doing O.K. at school, and learning quite a bit about army administration and such. To-day officially we became the 735 Railway Operating Battalion, but as yet do not change my address. I will advise you when to do this. As a member of this activated outfit it is feasible to get stripes, so be patient. All this will happen after basic training is completed in about six weeks. The Commanding Officer of the 5th Battalion gave all the office personnel a letter of Commendation. I enclose herewith a copy of one I received, and am retaining original for future use. Ain't I some God-damn soldier. Here I am with no basic training to speak of, and already have 3 letters of Commendation, and attending school. Ask Sam what that means to a soldier.

I feel grand; weather warm; everything under control. Hope you and Jim are healthy, happy and hungry. Give my best to the fuckwad your gang. Stay well, sweetheart. Kiss Jim for daddy, and remember always I love you truly

as ever,

Hy.

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