

Belguim
20 February 45.

Florence, dearest:

These wonderful long letters you write to me several times weekly to supplement your V-mail letters sure keep me well informed and in good spirits. I realize only too well that you have had many worries up to January 21st, and that since you have had some chance to relax. From the tenor of your letters it is my opinion that you are braver these days than in years gone by. It is necessary for one to be able to take adversity, and come thru - smiling. You have demonstrated that you are capable in this respect. I know that in years to come there will be more joy and happiness than the present offers, but come what may you can always be depended upon for strength of mind, character and will. Is it any wonder that I love and adore you so much. Keep up the good work, my sweetheart, soon we'll be laughing at all this seeming hardship.

Your letters dated Jan 2 and 15 arrived today, and even though there have been many letters in between it was a real joy to read these two long, descriptive letters. Also received a V-mail from Eleanor who seems to be emotionally upset by Jack's death. Her letter is dated Jan 31st. Suggest you give her a bottle of perfume if you feel so inclined. A letter from Bob Hale dated Feb 4, and one from the Parks dated Jan 13 completed the letters. Also received your package containing the aspirin bottle; thanks so much for being so thoughtful, it will come in handy when, as and if I catch cold or have a headache.

Jim seems to be a normal boy in every sense of the word and I suppose he keeps you plenty busy and pre-occupied. Your description of his rash does not sound serious, and I'm glad you decided to let a skin doctor check on it. Since you know what to do there is no need for me to advise you to keep after it. Let me know how he progresses with this treatment. From what you write he must have quite a mouth piece, but I sure hope he does not inherit my sarcastic way of talk. Am looking forward to a recent picture of you and Jim without winter clothing.

Last night I sent you two air mail letters, one containing snapshots, and the other a souvenir pin to wear on your new Easter suit. Please be sure to advise when these arrive. My last 4 letters have contained many snapshots, and I hope all of them come thru in good style. Am enclosing 3 more in this letter, and I'm holding on to the negatives in the event we want to duplicate any of them.

Thanks very much for arranging the delivery of the Sunday Times to me, however I'll advise you whether or not to renew the subscription. Delivery of newspapers and magazines here is very slow, and if these papers are delayed too long they are not worth the trouble reading. As a matter of fact I have not yet received any copies of the Readers' Digest. Did Jan and Jim receive the winter shoes I sent them on January 1st?

I hope Charlie does not feel too badly about not simulating my actions while his wife was alive. It is so unfair to compare individuals and their actions, since everyone does things according to his own dictates. Does Irene miss her mother very much, or has she like a child almost forgotten her existence? You sent me Capt. Ellichman's overseas address, could you possibly send me his present one as I'd like to write him. How is the blonde bombshell taking his unfortunate injury? Is Ben still beating his gums about the big dough he's making?

It may interest you to know that your packages are coming thru in perfect condition, but once again be reminded that faint juice is not desired. We get plenty of that, but I would like packaged cookies, smoked cheese (if no points are required) salted crackers or pretzels, (wrapped in heavy wax paper to keep the moisture out) chocolate covered candy (Atlantic & Pacific brand) some bag of corn syrup, Peanut oil and anything edible you think I've forgotten. We don't have an ice-box, and these packages are the only substitute. I will not ask anyone else for anything, so if you forward about one package weekly I'll place an additional orchid in your vase.

Went to the movies the other night to see Mickey Rooney and Spencer Tracy in "Boy's Town". I had seen it once before but the alternative was to see the "Charge of the Light Brigade" in which the actors speak French; "no compence" or "niets ferkastan" as the Flemish say. So night it gives a killer-biller, Bing Crosby in "Waikiki Wedding", or works to that effect. In any event every picture, good or bad, is one closer to the time when you and I will sit together viewing all the wonderful things we mutually enjoy - ballet, opera, comedy, drama, almost anything, just so as we are together - pals and sweethearts.

The war news sounds pretty good, and I think your opinion that the war over here will last another year or two is very pessimistic. The Nazis are really cutting hell these days, and the more they catch the longer the war will have pleasure. Keep your chin high, with a cheery smile on your face, and be patient. Every thing has its ending, and even this Holocaust will finally run out of steam, suddenly ending as it began - without warning.

I am in excellent health and spirits, hope you and Jim are the same. Kiss the littleascal for me, and I'll kiss you in mind. My very best to everyone, and if you want anything I can do or get for you, merely write. Until to-morrow with all my love

as ever

George

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