

Linz, Austria
 Sunday, 30 Sept 1945.

Helene, dearest:

Finally broke one of the bad streaks current here, and now I'm hardly concerned with the other. Mail call improved hereabouts to-day with the delivery of your Sept 20-21 st letters, one from Bob dated Sept 15 th, and one from Herbert. It was heart-warming to read your latest letter, and learn that you and Jim were just grand. I suppose all of you including Bess are impatiently awaiting the big day, but no more than I am looking forward to our day of reunion. Certainly Luper she has given birth long before this, and that you and Jim are firmly established in winter quarters in our home. Also received your Sept 14th envelope with the 25 Roosevelt stamps and first day cancel enclosed. The stamps are in good shape, except you forgot to use wax paper on the gummed side, so all the stamps stuck to the paper. I don't think I'll be able to use them for trading purposes, but don't send any more. I expect I'll do something with the first day cancel though.

Herb's letter dated Sept. 22nd advised that he had sent you a check for \$21.60 in payment of the 16 sets I sent him last month. He made a profit of 60¢ per set, and Herb split the profit with me. This is perfectly OK with me, so please advise when checks arrive. I wrote you that I have already sent 35 additional sets to him, and expect to send about 50 to 75 more. This is a pretty good profit on the small investment, and gives me a chance to send my funds home at a fair price. Incidentally, do you have any record of the money I have sent home since arriving in the ETO? I am surely curious.

30-morrow will be the first of October which means only about 5 weeks before I apply for discharge. All indications are that my application will be processed in jiffy time, so I feel reasonably certain that I'll be home in your arms some time in December, at the latest. Of course the Army can really SHAPE any situation, but I continue to be a Pellyanna. In this situation I can only see the bright side of things. You and I know very well that this is our year and nothing will alter that, so there!

With the tremendous shuffling of old men out and new men in the nucleus of men still remaining have become closer to each other. The boys phone me from Salzburg quite often to spend the week-ends with them, and weather and business permitting I intend going up there next Saturday and Sunday. Salzburg being a bigger town we should find better shows available there. Last week they had the Radio City Ballets there, and next week another big time show is scheduled. In any event these little holidays help to hasten time along. I'll let you know what I do.

Ferdinand Iax was just in to see me from Peckham. He's sweating out the 38 year old deal, since he's already 38 but his orders have not yet come then sending him home. It is expected any day now. His wife is quite well, and asked for us occasionally in her letters. Vandenburgh is still with us but since he has over 60 points, he'll be leaving soon. None of the Jokers have left yet. But it's only a matter of time before they too start homeward.

Chew has been better since we lost our American Cooks, and had them replaced by cooks from other units. Breakfast included french fried eggs to-day, and the piece de resistance at lunch was delicious fried chicken. Once again I'm watching my diet, so as not to gain any weight. I believe my clothes are going to fit me all right. I'm pleased to learn you have had the car checked, and in good condition. Do replace those seat covers soon. We've had plenty of service out of that set. Suggest you buy a fairly good set.

The show at the movies changes to-night, so I guess I'll head for a picture about 7 P.M. I feel great, and hope you and Jim continue to be in excellent health and spirits. Kiss the big boy for me, and I'll kiss you both in mind. My very best to everyone, and all my love and devotion to the sweetest wife in the world.

As ever,

Geary.

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