

King, Augusta
Tuesday, 14 August 45.

Florence, Darling:

I would impatiently awaits the official announcement of Allied Victory, but I know that tens of thousands are even more impatiently awaiting the news. The past four or five days have been a terrific strain, particularly so because we also want to learn the plan the War Dept will set forth for the rapid discharge of the men in the service. We have always known we would win and that I'd get home, but when - that's the question. although it's probably only a matter of hours or several days at the most, I think and hope it's all over. If only Bob did not ship prior to the announcement. However all in due course, and I'm optimistic.

Stars and Stripes carried an article today that the score would be lowered to 50 or less, and probably a lower age limit would be set, and perhaps some consideration for family men. On the re-valuation of points following V-J Day I'll probably have 54 or 55, in addition to which I hope to fit into the other two categories. Oh my sweetheart, no matter what the future holds for us, I know our life together will be a happy, long one. As soon as I learn anything definite about myself or the outfit next around I'll write, but quickly. In the meantime, dearest, keep smiling, and dream of the wonderful years to come - soon.

In our present state of suspense mail from home would be more welcome than usual, but unfortunately there were very few letters for anyone, but I received one from Frank. Since I am going to reply to it after writing this to you, I'll send you his last two letters under separate cover. I'm checking at the post office about sending packages to Belgium. I would like to send them some clothes for the winter, to say nothing about some edibles I'm sure they'd enjoy. Let me know what luck you have.

Enclosed herewith you find a \$25.00 money order which you will either use or bank. Advice when received, and once again thanks for acknowledging the July \$20.00 order. I am also awaiting word on the other funds forwarded to you. Let me know whether or not you received the War bond that you expected for May or June. The enclosed soap depicts parts of a railroad depot and town which saw war at its worst.

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Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the 1st inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. Smith

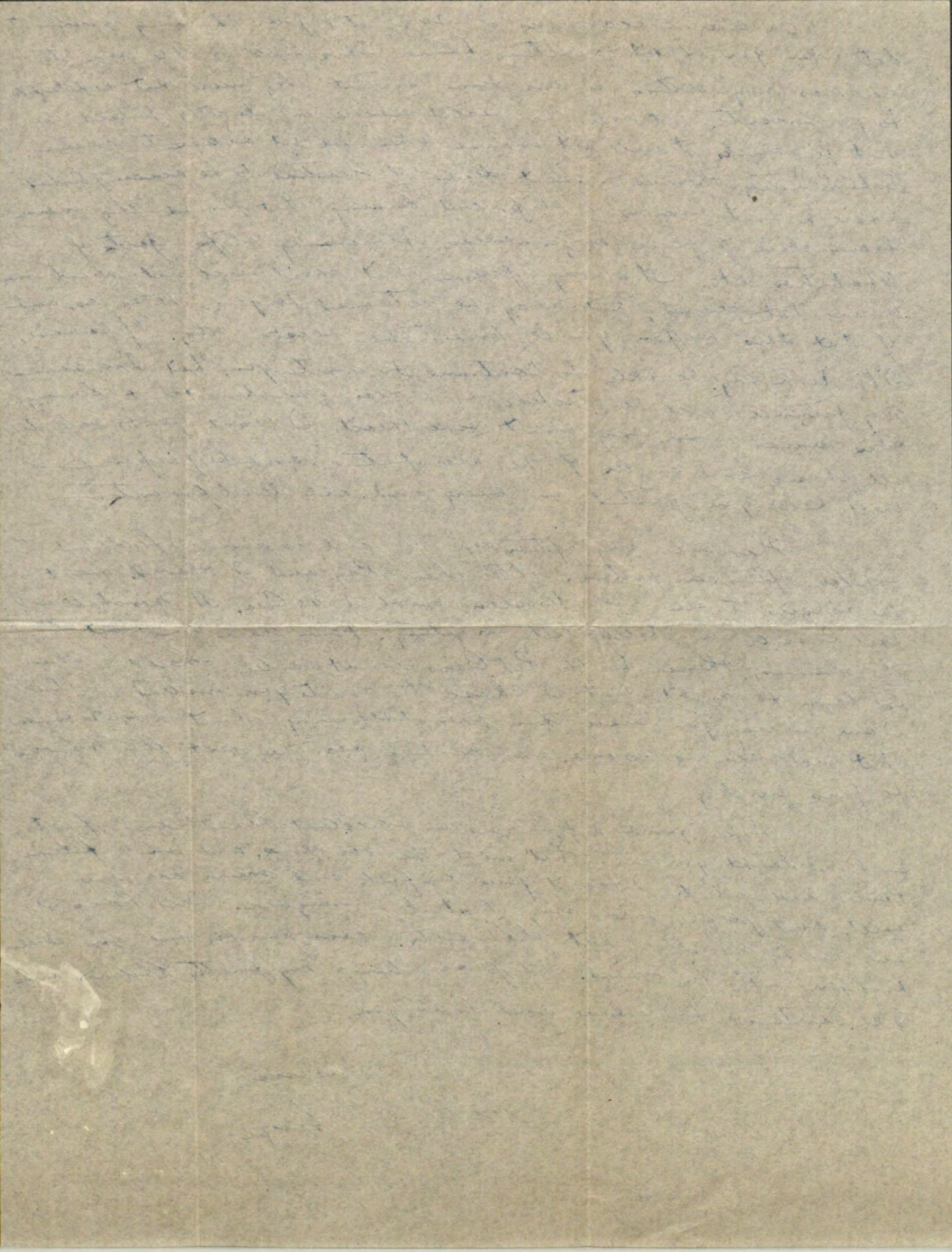
On several occasions I suggested your advising approximate date when you expect to return home. This would enable me to address my letters in due time so that they will not be delayed to you enroute. Although the postal service is slightly better the past few weeks it will get worse when we get orders to move. Unfortunately there is a great deal of routine to be accomplished before a unit boards a ship, and during that period they move from place to place, stopping areas, processing steps, ports of debarkation etc. It's my opinion that mail will not reach me during that period, but may be returned to you. When, as, and if that does happen you'll know the reason why. Of course, I'll probably be able to continue to write you, but I'm sure my patience will be stretched to a near-breaking point during this period. In any event, sweetheart, I want you to understand all phases and angles of the near-future, and be prepared. I will keep you posted on every and all developments.

This was my afternoon off, and as usual followed the Tuesday afternoon pattern. After Chew Ray and I shaved, went to the movies to see "The Unseen" with J. McCrea, H. Marshall and Paul Russell in a killer-killer mystery. From there we went to the showers, thence to the Red Cross donat center. There's a show in town to-night, but I chose to write you instead. So here I am, loving you more than ever, dreaming about a to-morrow that will see us as one, and wishing for the next few months to pass quickly.

Hope you and Jim are in excellent health and spirits, and no doubt you are, what with the war news, and Jim's feline Lewis and Juliet. I trust your kinfolk and mine are also well, and please give my best to everyone. Tell Bess I am hoping she gets what she wants. Kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you both in mind. Keep smiling, my pretty darling, and I'll continue to adore and love you,

as ever,

George



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