



AMERICAN RED CROSS

- 148 -

Hamm

2 June 1945

Flavence, Sweetheart:

Another Saturday night and still apart, but we can see the silver clouds in the distance. It is inevitable that this is our year, and no matter how much the politicians and War Dept. beat their drums I feel certain the older men will get out of the army soon. This constant reference to myself as an "older man" is merely a figment of the imagination. It's true I'll be 38 in November but I feel more like 28, and had I a few more hairs on my head I could probably pass for the latter age. In any event regardless of my numerical age I suggest your new mattresses be of excellent quality. They will probably experience good usage during our second honeymoon, following the reunion in Brooklyn. No doubt you have noticed my letters written since the censorship restrictions were removed have been less strained. It's more pleasant expressing myself without the sneering eyes of a lieutenant scanning the written expressions of love between us. This is our little world, and we want no trespassers.

To-day's mail call brought no letters for me but there were only a few letters for the whole battalion, so I expect to-morrow will bring some camp mail. However, reading and re-reading yesterday's two letters will keep me more than happy until your next mail arrives. Last night I wrote you a two pager with the promise that I'd elaborate more so in to-day's letter. Before I forget these letters you are writing about well along men of advanced age are going to the right sources. Politicians, radio commentators,

Page 1

-148-

Hamm

2 June 1945

Florence, sweetheart:

Another Saturday night and still apart, but we can see the silver clouds in the distance. It is inevitable that this is our year, and no matter how much the politicians and War dept beat their gums I feel certain the older men will get out of the army soon. This constant reference to myself as an "older man" is merely a figment of the imagination. It's true I'll be 38 in November but I feel more like 28, and had I a few more hairs on my head I could probably pass for the latter age. In any event regardless of my numerical age I suggest your new mattresses be of excellent quality. They will probably experience good usage during our second honeymoon, following the reunion in Brooklyn. No doubt you have noticed my letters written since the censorship restrictions were removed have been less strained. It's more pleasant expressing myself without the snooping eyes of a lieutenant scanning the written expressions of love between us. This is our little world, and we want no trespassers. To-day's mail call brought no letters for me but there were only a few letters for the whole battalion, so I expect to-morrow will bring [illegible] camp mail. However, reading and re-reading yesterday's two letters will keep me more than happy until your next mail arrives. Last night I wrote you a two pager with the promise that I'd elaborate more so in to-day's letter. Before I forget those letters you are writing about releasing men of advanced age are going to the right [illegible]. Politicians, radio commentators,

newspapers, and the like will play this up, and I expect that the War Dept will be subjected to much pressure on this score. I realize it's a job for you, but keep it up. Short letters to the joint, about long time family obligations, children without fathers, health resorts, mental attitude, financial difficulties, and such points should be included in your letters. Write for others in the family, and if Eleanor or someone can help keep the volume of letters high. In this game of hide and seek between Congress and the War Dept, public opinion in the case of men between 35 and 40 will be a deciding factor.

In yesterday's letter I sent a money order for \$25.00 which you will please acknowledge as usual. Enclosed in that package containing the money was a dip, I wonder if that also reached you in good shape. Thanks for continuing the Times for another 3 months, but do not renew unless I request it. Please advise when this road subscription expires. The digests reach me O.K., but I never did get those derogating magazines for Frank. Do not forward any others. For the joint week or ten days I have been writing an air mail letter daily, and enclosing snapshots. I hope they are all coming there in good shape. On May 30th I sent you a photograph of myself, which I think will please you. But, I suppose you have that by this time.

Reading about Jimmy in your letters always quickens my pulse a little. Even though we were together for almost 3 months last summer, yet somehow all my recollections of him are of his first year. Oh yes I can easily remember his call for duty each night when I came from the fort, and he was supposed to be asleep. I recall the wonderful days and evenings we spent playing in the parks of St. Paul, but somehow these first 12 months of his existence are more vivid. The first night when he sailed a diaper and we couldn't tidy him up correctly, or the way he used to sleep with his rear stuck up in the air, or his nightly baths, and his creeping on the rug, all these stand out in my mind, and now as I gaze upon his latest snaps I marvel at the big son we have. We certainly must endeavor to have

newspapers, and the like will play this up, and I expect that the War dept will be subjected to much pressure on this [scare?]. I realize it's a job for you, but keep it up. Short letters to the point, about long time family obligations, children without fathers, health results mental attitude, financial difficulties, and such points should be included in your letters. Write [for others?] in the family, and if Eleanor or someone can help keep the volume of letters high. In this game of hide and seek between Congress and the War dept, public opinion in the core of men between 35 and 40 will be a deciding factor.

In yesterday's letter I sent a money order for \$25.00 which you will please acknowledge as usual. Enclosed in that package containing the [illegible] was a clip, I wonder if that also reached you in good shape. Thanks for continuing the Times for another 3 months, but do not renew unless I request it. Please advise when this 2<sup>nd</sup> subscription expires. The [illegible] reach me OK, but I never did get those decorating magazines for Frank. Do not forward any others. For the past week or ten days I have been writing an air mail letter daily, and enclosing snapshots. I do hope they are all coming ther in good shape. On May 30th I sent you a photograph of myself, which I think will please you. But, I suppose you have that by this time.

Reading about Jimmy in your letters always quickens my pulse a little. Even though we were together for almost 3 months last summer, yet somehow all my recollections of him are of his first year. oh yes I can easily remember his call for duty each night when I came from the [illegible] and he was supposed to be asleep. I recall the wonderful days and evenings we spent play- ing in the parks of St. Paul, but somehow those first 12 months of his existence are more vivid. The first night when he soiled a diaper and we couldn't tidy him up correctly, or the way he used to sleep with his rear stuck up in the air, or his nightly baths, and his creeping on the rug. All those stand out in my mind, and now as I gaze upon his latest snaps I marvel at the big son we have. We certainly must endeavor to have



AMERICAN RED CROSS

a brother or sister for him, and with this new year, I feel as though perhaps our hope may turn into a reality. For one who has had much to worry about in the past few years, you have done a wonderful job with our boy, and I guess you know how Jim and I feel about you - We just love you more and more each day.

On June 26th my folks will have a wedding anniversary, and I wish you would send them something appropriate for the occasion. I would like for you to send a bunch of red roses and some gift, signing yours, Jimmy's and my name to the cards. Also will thank you to give pop the cigarette lighter for a Father's Day and birthday gift combined. His birthday is this month too. I know you have these little things in mind, but I like to worry about them, too.

Thanks so much for attempting to obtain these first-day covers for me. Some day all this collector's items will be valuable and will either keep us from the poorhouse, or give Jim the nucleus of a small collection. I have been sending home in packages many foreign coins, which no doubt you are hoarding for me. Among other things I have packed to night are many more coins which I will include in the two bundles I am arranging to send to-morrow. Will describe their contents in my next letter.

My detailed description of my European pint must have cleared up many questions in your mind. You can realize there was no point in telling you that we were living in "buzz-bait alley" during

a brother or a sister for him, and with this our year, I feel as though perhaps our hope may turn into a reality. For one who has had much to worry about in the past few years, you have done a wonderful job with our boy, and I guess you know how Jim and I feel about you- We just love you more and more each day.

On June 26th my folks will have a wedding anniversary, and I wish you would send them some-thing appropriate for the occasion. I would like for you to send a bunch of red roses and some gift, signing yours, Jimmy's and my name to the cards. Also will thank you to give pap the cigarette lighter for a Father's Day and birthday gift combined. His birthday is this month, too. I know you have these little things in mind, but I like to worry about them, too.

Thanks so much for attempting to obtain those first-day covers for me. Some day all this collector's items will be valuable and will either keep us from the poor house, or give Jim the [nucleus?] of a small collection. I have been sending home in packages many foreign coins, which no doubt you are holding for me. Among other things I have [proposed?] to-night are many more coins which I will include in the two bundles I am arranging to send to-morrow. Will describe their contents in my next letter.

My detailed description of my European jaunt must have cleared up many questions in your mind. You can realize there was no point in telling you that we were living in "buzz-bomb alley" during

our stay in the children. As a matter of fact the best  
part of my service over here will be related in  
person. However whatever the trials and tribulations  
in the recent past you can readily see from some of  
my snaps that I look hale and hearty, and that  
my sense of humor spiced with our environment  
plus the ever-present aura of love you cast about  
me has brought me thru in excellent shape.  
Now I'm ready to go back to my love, my home,  
and my country.

I'm pleased that the folks are well, and that  
Pat's departure is being taken so well. You and Jim  
have done ever so much to sustain their spirits,  
and I have another thing to be thankful to you for.  
Keep up the good work, dearest, and do try to persuade  
them to visit you in the country. Also glad that  
Gleason and your knifack are well, it is probably  
treating Jim as well as she treated Jack, which  
convinces me that the rascal has a good aunt. I  
intend including some cigarettes in my packages  
which you will please give it from me.

Well, darling, its getting late. I went to the  
movies earlier in the evening, but the picture was  
from hunger. We are going to devour a can of anchovies  
after I finish writing, so you can readily guess  
what my mouth will be like in the morning. I  
feel fine, hopeful of the future, and love you  
beyond any ability on my part to express.

Kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you in  
mind. My best to everyone

as ever,

George

our stay in Mechelen. As a matter of fact the best part of my service over here will be related in person. However whatever the trials and tribulations in the recent past you can readily see from some of my snaps that I look hole and hearty, and that my sense of humor spiced with our environment plus the ever-present aura of love you cast about me has brought me thru in excellent shape. Now I'm ready to go back to my love, my home, and my country.

I'm pleased that the folks are well, and that Bob's departure is being taken so well. You and Jim ever so much to sustain their spirits, and I have another thank to be thankful to you for. Keep up the good work, dearest, and do try to persuade them to visit you in the country. Also glad that Eleanor and your kinfolk are well, El is probably treating Jim as well as she treated Joel, which convinces me that the rascal has a good aunt. I intend including some cigarettes in my packages which you will please give El from me. Well, darling, it's getting late. I went to the [illegible] earlier in the evening, but the picture was from hunger. We are going to devour a can of anchovies after I finish writing, so you can readily guess what my mouth will be like in the morning. I feel fine, hopeful of the future, and love you beyond any ability on my part to express.

Kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you in mind. My hart to everyone

As ever,  
George

CPL Geo Stoff 42050100  
Co A 735 Ry OPN BN  
APO 350 46 Postmaster  
New York.

AIR-MAIL



5-2

MRS. FLORENCE STOFF  
3021 AVENUE I  
BROOKLYN 10  
NEW YORK-

Front

CPL GEO STOFF 42050100

CoA 735 R4 OPN BN

APO350 % POSTMASTER

NEW YORK

AIR-MAIL

J-2

MRS. FLORENCE STOFF

3021 AVENUE I

BROOKLYN 10

NEW YORK –

