

Thursday
May 24 - 1945

Dearest Beloved,

These last few days found me quite busy what with mattress selling, getting estimates on the job for the car and getting the apartment emptied of rugs and other stuff. But Jim and I are just fine and dandy and still miss You so very much. Just hope our fingers for seeing you this year will be answered soon. Daily the war department is releasing as many things and Dad told me this evening, over the phone, that he heard the 38 year olds are next in line for discharge. That'll mean at least 6 months more of separation, my darling but who knows what the news will be in another week, or month? Patient we'll have to be and the next few months in the country will help so much to pass the time quickly. I do hope You're having some fun and not worrying too much about us at home.

About the mattresses, I'm really thrilled and, as I related in yesterday's letter V-mail the woman also wanted our white spreads. I sold the whole business for \$50.00 and Clearon will order two good mattresses during the summer. About the car, the agent called here and after seeing the car advised me to get estimates. I did and sent them to him the following day. The amount

of the claim is about \$68.25 and a check will be
mailed to me shortly - I hope. Meanwhile I expect to
have the car started on this coming Monday. The 4
doors and fenders will be painted and the dents
straightened up. Also our radio will be put into A-1
condition with a new aerial thrown in.

Yesterday I received four two V-mails dated May 14
and 16th # 129-131 and no mail to-day. Also received
a money order for \$5.00 from you this week and acknowledged
it in a previous letter. And, my love, that exquisite,
very beautiful - out of this world - mirror arrived
yesterday afternoon. Thanks so much and I'll
surely write to Frank to night to thank him too.
It's really beautifully carved and quite a few
people there already fallen in love with it. My
sister Eleanor, who was here last night until
12.30 simply raved about and is refinishing it
to bring out more of its beauty. I suggested
gold leaf but we'll see what can be done. We cut
out 3 pairs of pajamas for Jim last night and Charlie
came in for about an hour to talk with us. Eleanor
also brought me a small roast beef which she purchased
at a butcher in her vicinity. Now I wish you can
share this roast beef with us to-morrow night.

As you requested I'm continuing the subscription
of the Sunday Times for another three months and
are you still getting the Digests. Did you ever
get those decorating magazines for Frank?

Now for your family. The folks are well, Bob and Frances are fine and paid Sam and Kay a visit last night. Jimmie and I expect you home any time so Jim is starting to call every medicine daddy. He still talks about the top corn and what wonderful memories top corn will always have for us. If only this summer would bring me as much joy as this last one I'll be more than satisfied.

Weather is delightful and we're outdoors for many hours getting the air and sunshine. Jim is getting quite tall and very wiry and is still a honey of a boy. To-night I oiled his hair and shampooed it and tucked him in early after supper. We both had long naps this afternoon and to-night I have many things to do, as usual. Just spoke to Sonny and she and the family are well. My Mom called and all is well with her and Eleanor. Thelma is O. K. too and Maurice comes home nightly from Mitchell Field.

With the big shot Nazis in captivity and many of them suicides there are just a few more to be caught. They'll all get what they deserve but that doesn't solve very much when Europe is now in such a turmoil and it may get even worse in the next few months. Just stay well, be careful and do try to fly away from all the unwholesome atmosphere everywhere.

I still love you with all my heart and think of you every moment. Jim and I send you oceans of hugs and kisses and love.
 As always,
 Etienne

1847

My dear Mother

I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and was very glad to hear from you. I am well and hope this finds you the same. I have been thinking much of late about the future and the uncertainty of life. I feel that I must be prepared for whatever may come. I have been reading much of the Bible and feel that I am getting a better understanding of God's will for me. I am also thinking much of the poor and the oppressed and feel that I must do all I can to help them. I have been thinking much of the future of our country and feel that we must be united and true to our principles if we are to have any chance of success. I am also thinking much of the future of the world and feel that we must be true to our principles if we are to have any chance of success. I am also thinking much of the future of the world and feel that we must be true to our principles if we are to have any chance of success.

I am, dear Mother, your affectionate son,

John C. Smith

Mrs. G. Stoff
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VIA AIR MAIL

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