

King, Austria.
Wednesday, 15 Aug 45.

Florence, Sweetheart Darling Dearest:

This is the day the whole world has been waiting for since 1937, and you and I in particular since Oct 27th 1943. It's here, my pretty wife, and the days before our reunion are numbered. All these days and nights of worry, anxiety, loneliness and heart-ache are done with for years to come. Soon it will not be necessary for you and Jim to bid daddy's picture good-morning, because I expect to be there in person. How deep I have had a feeling of sublime happiness, but somehow I don't feel like celebrating until after I've kissed you and Jim, and have you both in my arms. That will be my birthday day, and may it be soon. Your patience may be tried Jim's and again until I get back, but honey, be of good cheer, the road leads straight to your heart, and I'll do all I can to hasten my return.

We got the news when we awoke this morning but it had come over the radio at about 1:30 this morning. As yet there has been no announcement as to who is going to be discharged, when or how. However I feel that somehow, somewhere in the master plan, I'll fit, and then back to the American Way of life. Love, life and the Pursuit of Happiness will be emblazoned on our location as

Gen and I blaze our trail thru the years
to come.

It was impossible to do any work to-day,
so I didn't. I just thought of you, Jim, the
facts, Bob, our little wants, and our plans for
our continued pig and hyphening. The delivery of
your letter dated August 5th broke up my
venery long enough to make me realize more
than ever the rough time you have had
in the past 21 months. The letter was the
Sunday one you sent via regular mail, and
the tenor of it indicated you were slightly
down in the mouth due to the discomfitment
of the War Dept refusal to lower the age limit.
I am so sorry you had built your hopes
up to the sky on the strength of that G.I.'s
unsubstantiated rumor of the directive, but
darling, believe me when I tell every G.I.
has been thru this same sort of a deal
hundreds of times. I certainly hope this
is the end to all that sort of thing. It is
expected that shortly the War Dept will
announce its plans for demobilization of
the army. As soon as I know exactly
where I stand I'll advise you. Of course
you too will get the same news so you'll
know in due time what to expect. Gosh,
oh gee, darling it seems like a dream
come true. Every moment's delay now

will seem even longer than the hours here
up to now. I know we can manage to carry
on a bit longer, and then you, Jim and Anne.
Just imagine, all this and Heaven, too.

The letter I received from you to-day
was not your usually optimistic one, but
I can well understand how you felt. Not
only were you tired from the week-end,
Jining party, and the company, but
you are probably homesick for a little
being. I know how you feel, my darling,
because I'm standing for some. I'll do
all I can to make amends for these
many months of separation, so feel en-
titled. It won't be long. Unfortunately there
are 4 or 5 letters missing between to-day's
and the last one but perhaps to-morrow
will adjust that. I don't know whether you
interpreted my remarks about packages into
thinking I was angry, because I am not.
I realize that you authorized Ed to open
them upon arrival, but when I sent them
I did not realize any one but you might
open these packages. It's of no concern
to me I'll drop the matter.

Bob's last letter stated that he
might be around in the States for a
month or more before departing. This was
written on August 2nd. I am most anxious

to learn whether or not he beat the Jap
surrender deadline. No doubt his letter
will reveal this, but please be sure to
include this info in your reply to this
letter — just in case.

My mind and my heart are so
full of so much to write you, but
somehow my pretty darling, all I want
to do is caress you in my arms, whisper
I love you more than life, and then kiss
you, as only we kissed on the occasion of
our first meeting. I'll never be happy
again until I am able to do just this
all the time. The tender memories I
have of our love and life together, are
now crying out for a renaissance of that
era of happiness and joy. That's all I'm
thinking and dreaming of, and expect will
continue to do so until it is a reality.

There being no place to celebrate
in this town which is without beer, wine
or cognac, several of us went to the
local Circus. The enclosed program
gives you an outline of what I saw. To
me however this was all a new experience.
It was a big-top canvas tent, we had
front row boxes (for ladies only) and

the show was a ³ killer diller. I laughed
all night, but even deep in my heart I
knew I was laughing because all I could
think of was you, Jim and I attending
next Spring's shewing of the circus in
Madison Square Garden. This one was without
whips, pop-corn, pink lemonade, and the
barkers that make circuses famous. I
know we'll have a wonderful time on
the occasion of Jim's first circus, but
then there will be many wonderful times
in the years to come.

You and the folks must have been
more than thrilled by the sudden turn in
events, and I can easily picture all of you
with lumps in your throats, hope in your
hearts, and perhaps an atheistic prayer on
your minds. Yes, Florence, my love, it's true,
and it's wonderful. If only I could name
the date when I'll be back, but even that
will come in due time - so keep smiling.

To-day I was issued a brand new
basin lower jacket, and in the ~~few~~ next
few days I'll have me snuggled all warmed
up. It fits me pretty good, and I hope
you like it, even if only until I return.
I sent you a \$25.00 money order the day
before yesterday, and am still awaiting
word about the \$35.00 and \$40.00 amounts.

I feel great, and will continue to
be so until I get home, then I'll feel
more wonderful than humanly possible.
Kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you both
in mind with all my love and
devotion. My very best to everyone, and
remember I continue to love and
adore you always.

as ever

Ed.

Z I R K U S

Bandmaster: **Renshausen**

Prelude the Circus-Band.

1. Tandem, ridden by Mr. Shupka.
2. Two Elkins, acrobats on silver chains.
3. Danner, swingrope under the circus roof.
4. Dir. Konrad, freeacts with horses.
5. Charles and Jose, clowns.
6. Miss Trude, modern acrobat.
7. Dir. Althoff's elephant revue.

Interval — animal show.

8. Two Clausons, snappy acrobats.
9. Miss Jenson, steady balancing on a rope.
10. Two Ernests, bicycle stunt riding.
11. A. u. B. Andree, The bar in the air.
12. Dir. Althoff, modern horse training.
13. Four Bentos, comical music actors.
14. Amateur prize riding.

End march.

K O N R A D

Kapellmeister: **Ronshausen**

Spielleiter: **A. Bödenler**

Musikalisches Vorspiel.

1. Tandem, geritten von Herrn Supka.
2. Zwei Elkins, Turner auf Silberketten.
3. Danner, Schwungseil unter der Zirkuskuppel.
4. Freiheitsdressuren, vorgeführt von Dir. Konrad.
5. Spaßmacher Charles und Jose.
6. Trude, moderne Elastik.
7. Dir. A. Althoff's Elefanten-Revue.

Pause — Tierschaubesichtigung.

8. Zwei Clausons, Tempo-Akrobaten.
9. Jenson, Gleichgewicht auf dem Drahtseil.
10. Zwei Ernests, Kunstradfahrerinnen.
11. A. u. B. Andree, „Die Bar in der Luft“.
12. Moderne Pferdedressuren des Dir. A. Althoff.
13. Vier Bentos, komische Musikalkünstler.
14. Amateur-Preisreiten.

Schlußmarsch.

ZIRKUS KONRAD

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