

Somewhere in France

24 November 1944.

Florence, sweetheart:

I am ever aware of the sure thing I have in the realization that I am in love with the sweetest girl in the world. Within me I have the feeling of being partners in some sublime emotion, and happy am I that we share this love. Darling, your most recent letters continue to assure me that all is well with you and Jim, and that bearing illness you are doing a grand job of keeping up the morale of the home front. This is the type of war that not only requires strong soldiers but also sturdy, courageous soldiers back home. You, my mother and father, and all the wives, parents and children of soldiers have a burden to bear. The manner in which you hold up will have ever so much influence on me, so dearest, be firm, be of good cheer, and don't worry; even this will come to an end, and then will come our day.

To-day's mail included no letter from you, but I received one from Pirans, Eleanor, a card from your mother, one from Bob, and the leather bound invitation to his graduation exercises. There was included in this invitation a card with Bob's name as Lieutenant, Air Corps. Oh Florence, as much as I want to see him make the grade, yet I will realize his present assignment will probably take him to a theatre of operations. He will not be as fortunate as I am. a bombardier must attack enemy strong points, and need I point out

1891-1892

1. *Crataegus* *sp.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the above named matter. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, etc.

the risks. From now on he is definitely in the hands of Fate, and I hope inexorable destiny has cast him in a fortunate role. In any event I am proud of his efforts and achievements, and feel certain he will do an excellent job no matter what the odds or assignment. It will be my privilege to salute him as an officer, and I look forward to the opportunity while we are both still in the service.

Pirous' letter dated 12 Nov. advised that you were away in the country. He assured me that you and Jim were well prior to your departure. He also advised that the stock market was going higher and that our securities had improved in price. It seems that the election results had helped bolster confidence in the market, and with the uncertainty out of the way, there is a good possibility that we may have a bull market. The war news also continues to be most optimistic. I realize we have been hoping for an early end to this rotten mess but not until the Nazis have had their bellies filled with lead and steel. The latest offensive seems to confirm the determination to subdue them with force. I hope they see the hand-writing on the wall sooner than later.

Cleaver's letter written in her usual humorous vein was most welcome. I'll endeavor to reply to her shortly. The surprise receiving a birthday card from your mother overwhelmed me, and that's the way I am at the moment. It just occurred to me that yesterday (Nov 13rd) was Bob's birthday. Please

[illegible]

Convey my very best wishes to him. I have not written him since Nov. 5th since I believed he would have departed from Fleming before any mail written after that date would reach him. Explain this to him, and I'll write him in length as soon as I receive an address from him.

Now about you and Jim. Did you two have a wonderful time on your little holiday in the Country? Do you believe Jim will lose the odor of burning leaves, and the colors of the trees in autumn, as do his mother and daddy? Is Bess, Jan and Hy well, and is buying War Bonds at 2.9% interest yield still their chief contribution to this pathos of blood and guts? Did you use the car, or is it in storage for the winter? Are you and Jim in excellent health and spirits, or do I have to get my underground agents to report to me? Everyone who writes me tells me all about you two so be on the qui vive.

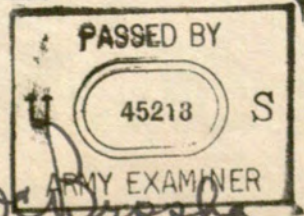
I am fine and dandy. Keeping right on the ball, taking good care of myself, and dreaming about you all of my spare moments. Waiting impatiently for those latest pictures, and as soon as I get a camera and films I'll be able to forward some snaps of myself.

Is mom and pap well, and how did they react to Bob's appointment as lieutenant? Kiss Jim and my folks, sweetheart, and I'll continue to adore you with all my love. With a kiss in mind, and my best to everyone you find me,

as ever,

George

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