

Friday 2-25-44

Florence, dearest:

It is like a breath of fresh air taking this time off to sit down and converse with you daily. This loss of freedom and prolonged separation from you, my sweetheart, are the troublesome features of army life, but daily I am reminded by your gentle breeze that life in the future will be even more beautiful, fuller, and filled with unkindled love and devotion. Looking forward to a future like that is inspirational, and then adding to that the realization that my life will be with you, how can I lose heart or feel lost. My heart calls out to you every moment, and I know, I feel, that somewhere in the ethereal world it meets your heart-throbs. We must be of good cheer, hopeful and above all patient, this will pass as all other trying periods have gone by, and we, and our love still survived, always more strongly.

Please forgive the short letter I penned yesterday, but time did not permit my usual correspondence. As I write, I was fortunate in being

to work at headquarters instead of that
15 mile hike, but even so, I found it
troublesome falling asleep last night.
Not that I was worried or indisposed,
but it seemed I kept thinking about
you and Jim, our home, our life, our
love, and our future. You know, day
dreaming at night. Usually I am plenty
tired at night and fall asleep rather quickly.

Have another exam Saturday, and
expect the final examination next Saturday.
I have every hope that I will attain a
final grade ranging between 94 and 100.
It is my intention to make application for
the advanced course given at Ft. Washington,
Maryland, but don't count on it. The quota
for this camp is very low, and I must
obtain permission from the company
commander and battalion headquarters
before I can go. They may decide that
I stay with the company, so the fates
have the answer to all this. Sit tight
and I'll let you know all about this
in another week or so. The schedule
calls for us to leave for the firing range
a week from the day after tomorrow
(Sunday). The company will stay for a
full week, but perhaps I won't have to
rough it all that time. It may be
necessary for the headquarters personnel
to return sooner, see what I mean.

This letter was started at noon,

continued at 5.45 P.M. before supper,
and I am now seated in the library
completing it. Received your letter of
Tuesday and Wednesday, and not only did
I devour each and every word, but I
even enjoyed the smell of the paper. It
reminded ^{me} of days, not so long ago, when
I could smell someone's scent all the
time. Thanks for attending to Percus'
flowers, and please continue contacting
his wife. As for my numerous darling, if
I were to relate each letter I wrote to
you it would drive you nuts. Up to the
present every summer has been ~~excessively~~
since I entered the army, but when I
do hear something authoritative, you will
be the first to learn about it, naturally.
It does not matter to me whether you go
to Kuchuk's Ber Mitzvah, but I do
want you to send a small gift in either
event. You probably would have a good
time if you did go, and I see no
reason for not attending, other than
jealousy. Let me know what you
do. If you remind me again I will
endeavor to congratulate him around
that date.

Thanks for Claude Alden's address.
he is a fine person and I will write

him sure. It is good to learn that
you and Jim continue in such excellent
health, and with me in a like status
I guess we are just a strong, healthy,
loving family. Stay that way, beloved,
and I will preserve me for you.

Mom and pop must derive a great deal
of joy from you and Jim and I'm
glad that in fact we can keep their
spirits up. Bob is rather pressed for
time, even more so than I, so please
excuse his short notes, but continue
to write him as often as you can. I know
he appreciates mail from us.

We had a "G I Party" to-night,
which consists of scrubbing down the
barracks with soap and brushes for
the usual Saturday inspections. I am
getting to be quite a kid with a mop,
am I not though, and going to study
for an exam after this letter. Kiss
Jim for daddy, I'll kiss you in
mind, and remember I love you -
always

as ever,

Gg

FROM

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