

Thursday 2-17-44

Flowers, dearest:

The melody of the closing scene of the opera "Pagliacci" has been running thru my mind the past few hours, and it brought back to memory those famous words exclaimed at the conclusion of the opera "E finita la Comedia", The comedy is over, finished. Those few words express my complete attitude to this present set-up. Were it not for your devoted love all this would be more difficult to take; but as it is, loving you and be loved by you, even at these distances, more than makes up for our present separations. I realize every moment of the day that I am a most fortunate man and husband, and believe you me, darling, I appreciate it. I need love more than money or wisdom right now, and you are supplying me with this vital need.

Your letters of Monday and Tuesday both arrived to-day, and they were sure welcome. Getting a double dose of your honey letters warms the cockles of my heart. Also received a letter from Don, Mr. Brown and Jack Weber, who is on an island in the South Pacific. All is well with him, but then his mail is censored. I intend writing right after I complete this letter. Don's letter was lengthy, but tell him to try to make more legibly. I haven't yet finished de-coding. Incidentally I hope you have no difficulty reading my script. I'll reply to Don over the week-end. Hope my uncle is resting comfortably, and I'll send him a card. G/B wrote that Pinus was to go to the Jewish Hosp for observation, if he did please send flowers. Bill Fowler is also in my Hospital with intestinal ailment, but don't send him anything.

You have been writing that all is well with

you and Jim, but in to-day's letter you write, quite
"I feel quite strong again". This line is too cryptic for me,
were you ill? did you lose your courage, and give vent
to your feelings? or is it just a figure of speech I am
easily led to misinterpret. I know there is nothing I
can do about it, but I do wish you'd let me know
if all is well. It is decidedly difficult to get along in
the New Orleans vicinity with a baby, and it is expected
that my outfit will leave here by end of March. We
are scheduled for technical training at another camp.
so please be patient until I see how I stand. You
know that uppermost in my mind are you and Jim, and
everything I do or hope to do is concerned with
you two, so let us be brave and hopeful until I
can see what the score is. Stay well, darling, and
keep me advised.

Your money order arrived in good order
and now I'm rich. Do not intend though to celebrate
much until I finish school, but I will go to No.
after that, and neatly put on a spread, with napkins
and plates. I am not concerned whether or not
you have money on your present income as long as
you and Jim have everything you need or want. Of
course the more we have the richer the future will
be, but right now I'm interested only in the
present. So please buy clothes and all other needs
without a second thought, but keep up those bond
purchases. Pay that Annual Traveler's Bill, and I'm
glad you got that bottle of whiskey. Thanks for last
week's part of the Times and to-day's clippings. But
this week's Times has not arrived yet. However
I have discovered that the Camp Library now
gets the Sunday Times, so please cancel my
request to send it weekly, and I will read it
at the post's expense. Under separate cover I
am forwarding a schedule of training, which
gives you an idea of what I am missing each

much as a result of going to school.

It makes me feel great to learn that everyone is so proud of my meager accomplishments, and I am glad you and the folks enjoy my letters. I don't know what I'd do if I couldn't write you daily, because this the special part of the day when I feel as though you were sitting on my lap, and I was relating the day's events to you, and it's a good feeling. I know Bob is having difficulties with his eyes, and I hope he gets the breaks he is seeking.

Seems such a long time ago that I left home for the Service, and yet you write Jan is wetting his pants. I guess time seems longer to us under these circumstances, but it is heartening to learn that he is growing and thriving well. Take care of yourselves my two precious jewels, and pretty soon I will have you both set in wreaths of joy and happiness. Give my best to everyone, a kiss to Jimmy, and yours I hold in mind,

as ever,

Ag.

P.S. My friend Irving Sackberg's wife wrote him she wants to divorce him at the present time. Some guys aren't as fortunate as me, are they, honey?

G.

I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I have been very busy lately
 but I will write to you again soon.
 I am your affectionate friend,
 John Smith

17

Post. Sec Staff 42050100
CoA 735 Rwy O.P.N. BN TC-UTC
Camp Planché,
New Orleans, La



Mrs. Florence Staff.
3021 Avenue I
Brooklyn,
New York

