



AMERICAN RED CROSS

- 180 -

Rippstadt -
4 July 1945.

Flavours, darling:

I hope you and Jim spent a most eventful 4th of July, with flogs, fireworks, and meat to eat. No doubt you had plenty of company, and I do hope Jim didn't light the fire crackers under someone's seat. It was a very quiet day here, for some unknown reason the Germans don't celebrate this holiday. Weather was grand, bright and sunny, and even though I was on duty the day seemed to pass quickly. I managed a hair cut and shave in the afternoon, devoted the balance of the day to reading magazine articles, also wrote Jimma a letter.

In last night's letter I devoted some space to relating the latest well-founded rumours and facts. To-day's events bear out everything I told you. I learned that we are scheduled to leave within a few days for a town on the Danube named PASSAU, which is about 150 miles from Vienna, and directly south of SALZBURG, I think. In any event it's supposed to be located in beautiful country and will be an opportunity to see other parts of Germany. This is pretty close to the Austrian border. I don't mind going there as

long as we have to stay in Germany for a short while yet. However unless the present plans are changed we are scheduled to return to the States, and I reiterate, this is our year. This move will probably spoil any chance I had to go to Malines next week, but I'll wait until I see what the future brings. In any event, sweetheart, it's a better deal than occupational forces on Pacific-bound. Once I get back to the States I may get better breaks. If they reduce that average limit - Rallelyoh -

This movement will probably have us riding round for several days, so if you miss a few days mail you know the cause. Naturally I will keep you advised as to all the facts as quickly as possible. Fortunately I still have 14 rolls of 120 and 620 film, so I should be able to take plenty more shots. When you receive the package containing the 9 rolls of 116 film I sent you, would you please send me 2 as I owe them to a fellow who gave me 120 for them. Send them well wrapped in a first class mail - Thanks!

To-day being a Holiday there was no mail delivery. To add to the boredom of the evening there was no movie either. I guess I'll go down to the beer garden in back of the hotel, and listen to the boys shoot the breeze. Some of them haven't been sober in weeks, but it doesn't matter, they just don't worry about going to the movie. The beer isn't too bad, costs 5¢ a glass, and the only other drink available is gin - of a mediocre quality.



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My diet is moving along in fine style. Now I can bend over to lace my shoes without fainting. I can just picture Jim taking one look at me when I return home and saying, "Mummy, there's a fat, baldy man at the door, who looks like daddy." So I decided to trim down the gut, since I cannot grow hair, and if I don't look like the physical culture specimen you once admired, at least I'll look thin - and maybe young.

Have seen no newspaper for two days, but the radio news is not startling. I do hope all is well at home with you and Jim, Bob, your folks and mine. I wrote you about buying a copy of Red Sea, and now want you to get a volume of "OP FRONT" by Wm. Mauldin. It's a book of the Month Club choice, and is a group of cartoons - we'll enjoy in the years to come.

Stay well, my pretty wife, kiss Jim for me, and I'll kiss you both in mind. My very best to everyone,

As ever,

George.

P.S. I love you —



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