

Thursday 1-27-44.

Florence, Sweetheart:

Over and over again I repeat to myself each morning as we stand at attention at reveille, that soon we shall be together, expressing our love and devotion as in days gone by. This, I know, is our destiny and I am as certain of it as that the dawn will break to-morrow, and herald the birth of another day, a day which brings us closer and closer to victory and peace, love and home. These thoughts at present constitute my faith and religion, and nothing can happen to me that will change these deep convictions of mine. I am in love with you, my precious one, and you love me; and it cannot be otherwise, so be patient, be brave, have courage and fortitude, for to-morrow we will live, love, and rejoice.

I have just returned from the movies having seen the "Song of Russia"; it was a lovely picture, with romance, love, exquisite music, and plenty of propaganda, but I enjoyed it. It was the kind of picture you and I would have held hands all the way through, and felt the tugs of each other's heart strings. See it if you can, I know you will like it as I did.

To-day was a very uneventful day at its best. No letter from you; only mail I received was a letter from Jack Kramer, who related all about the sick members visited by the S.W. Comm; however any news from home is always welcome. The weather has been mild and a bright sun all day, so I am in good spirits and feel fine. The stitch hasn't come out of the gums yet, but I have a pretty little bow, at the point at which the dentist tied it. These stitches fall out by themselves, if you remember your own stitches.

I think it advisable that I acquaint you with the subject of furloughs, both regular and emergency. In the usual course of army life, a soldier is entitled to and always receives 30 days of furlough time each year. This is computed on the basis of $2\frac{1}{2}$ days for each month in the army. So, if I could get a furlough pay in 5 months, I would get 12 days. See what I mean. Emergency furloughs are a little different; they work this way. Should someone in my immediate family become seriously ill, (i.e. you, James, my folks) a telegram should be sent to me advising me of the gravity of the illness and requesting my presence. Upon receipt I would proceed to my Company Commander and request an "emergency" furlough to go home. Headquarters here would contact the Red Cross in N.Y. to investigate the veracity of the case. If found to be true, the Red Cross would wire back immediately, and the furlough is usually granted. If found to be false, the soldier has an unpleasant time to look forward to. Time given for emergency furloughs are not counted against your regularly allotted 30 day furlough time. I hope you never have to telegram me on this account, but I thought it advisable that you know the procedure.

Let me tell you about some of the new men who have just come in to my company. Most of them have been in the army all of 3 weeks. Alongside of me there is a young man of 26, an undertaker by profession, who has 2 children, one 7 and one age 4. On the other side of him, is a fellow of 29 who is the father of 2, and whose wife has one in the oven. Across the room is an old man of 33, who has 5 children, and another in the oven. There are men here who are troubled with bleeding ulcers, shin sores, (uncurable) asthma, 3 fingers missing on right hand, one glass eye, and I haven't yet tackled to all of them. Believe me,

darling, I feel healthy like anything after having
met them; and that's the way they run in this camp.
Being a non-combat unit, everything goes, but don't
worry there are plenty of healthy ones too, and between
us this war will be won soon. When I started this
letter I thought I'd have difficulty filling up half
a page, but as I struggle up closer to my subject,
loving you, I find it simple to write and write, just
as simple as I found it to fall in love with the
sweetest, most charming girl I know. - You!

Now, let me inquire as to what my two
most precious possessions are facing to-day. How
is our lovely little rascal behaving? and feeling?
Love you well, and not worrying or brooding too
much? because you shouldn't. I know you are
homesick, but so am I; and anyway this mess
will be over soon, and then "all this and Heaven, too."
I feel as though you understand all this, but I want
you to be of good cheer and brave all the time, so please
try hard.

Most of those pictures we took Sunday in
the Zoo, came out swell, and we are making several
more sets for the other 3 boys. Be patient and I'll
send them along in a couple of days. I will also
include some of the negatives, for you to do with as you
see fit. I think you'll be surprised to see me in
full uniform, as will Jimmy, but I suppose he'll wind
up putting the picture in his scrap.

It is now 10.20 P.M., and I am waiting this in
the sergeant's room as our lights are already out (10 P.M.).
Oh yes, we had real army baked beans to-day, for
the second time since I'm here, and as usual the
boys complained because there was no meat to go with
them. Say, did you ever receive the letter with the

Army vocabulary, and did you enjoy reading it. Well
darling, to-morrow is Friday, and the end of another
week in the army, almost. As yet I have had no
real training, and before I am ready to be used I
must receive at least 6 weeks basic, and 4 months of
technical training. This is a long time yet, and many
things can happen, so keep hoping I stay here, and
don't get activated, as this helps to prolong the time,
and time is of the essence.

I hope you, James and the folks are all well,
and in good spirits. Please kiss Jimmy for me, and
for you I have that kiss in mind always, and
love in my heart

As love,

Gg.

any more, but I am sorry to hear
that you are in the hospital, and that
you are not able to go out. I hope
you will be able to go out soon.
I am sorry to hear that you are
in the hospital, and that you are
not able to go out. I hope you
will be able to go out soon. I
am sorry to hear that you are
in the hospital, and that you are
not able to go out. I hope you
will be able to go out soon.

I hope you are feeling better now.
I am sorry to hear that you are
in the hospital, and that you are
not able to go out. I hope you
will be able to go out soon.

Yours
J. H. H.



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