

Linz, Austria.

Friday, 3 August 1945.

Florence, Sweetheart:

Last night's rain and thunder storm turned into a cool, sunny day to-day, which was most welcome. It was a pity that the announcement of the unchanged critical score for discharge came then to-day, because that left a slightly bad taste. Particularly since nothing was forthcoming about the older men. It seems to me that the War Dept is having some kind of an internal squabble, and that the politicians are trying awfully hard to please their constituents. I still believe that within 30 to 60 days something will be done for us A.I.'s, but I fear you will have to continue some of your letter writing. Address your letters to the Secretary of War, the President, Army and Navy Journal, Washington, D.C., Congressmen, Senators, General Marshall, and the like. Enclosed herewith are a couple of sample letters addressed to "Yank Magazine". The second letter presents our problem perfectly. I suggest you guide yourself by this model. I realize only too well that it's a burden on you, darling, but one letter a day will help, I'm sure. Don't lose hope, because we know this is our year, despite the obstacles.

Mail call to-day was a hurried affair. Only about 75 letters for the whole company, and my share was a July 5th letter from Frank in which was enclosed the letter you sent them in May. He wanted me to read it in order to know what you wrote, and criticized me about six times to return it, which I will. Your letter was perfectly brilliant, and I'm not referring to the portions devoted to me. It was the kind of letter I'd like to receive were I in their place, and I'm sure they'll treasure it. As soon as I reply, I will forward Frank's letter to you for your journal.

In addition to the enclosed squib, there are 8 snaps, and a \$35.00 money order. As yet I have not received acknowledgment of the \$20.00 money order sent on or about July 2nd, and the \$40.00 sent July 16th via the Army Finance Office. If you're advised in a previous letter please confirm when you receive this anyway. Three more rolls of film came then to-day, and I will continue to send you snaps in each envelope as long as they last. I am also having more made up from some of Ray's negatives, which I think will interest you. To-night I will mail you in a full mail stamp envelope #3, and begin to forward all my film negatives with film envelope #1. Please preserve all these, if you have the space. Also, honey, try to advise me about when you expect to leave the country so that I can direct the mail to Brooklyn. This will save you probably a week's delay when you get back.

Have been pretty busy for the last day or so, but manage to find time to dream about you and Jan. A delay in mail delivery does not worry me, but reading your wonderful letters have become habit-forming, not unlike narcotics. I am just uneasy until they arrive again. I have every confidence all is well with you and Jan, and do hope that my folks are not worrying too much about Bob. I haven't heard from him since receiving his July 23rd letter. If possible try to keep me posted on his whereabouts.

Am going to write the Whitmans a reply to their July 18th letter after I complete yours. I was glad to note that Murray wrote this letter, and I suppose he is coming around okay. Last night I wrote the folks, and sent them some snaps. I had 2 sets made of all these pictures, intending to send them to the folks in subsequent letters like I sent yours. I imagine they'd like to have them to show the family, friends, and customers.

The crowds of women and children gathering around our garbage bucket to catch the scraps and coffee before we discard them from our mess glass grates daily. These people get enough bread and probably vegetables, but they have little butter, no fat, little meat and no real coffee or tea. So, they relish any thing they catch. These are the same Nazis who gave Jews and other minority folks stale bread and water to subsist on. I just don't feel sorry for them. It may interest you to know that I had a wooden ampouren, fatigue uniform, 2 towels, 8 handkerchiefs, undershirts and shorts washed this week, and for which I gave the lady 2 oranges and a lemon — See what I mean!

Instead of waking up like a man with a stiff(?), I awake this morning with a stiff neck. It has gradually eased up during the day, and after I finish my letter writing I'm going to the 7-15 showing of the movie. Have no idea what's showing, but I hope it's been changed since Wednesday. Otherwise all's well. I love and adore you, my only sweetheart, and miss you like any thing — but our day and years are coming. Stay well, kiss Jan and my folks for me, and I'll kiss you in mind with all my love. My best to your mother and sisters,

As always,

George

Handwritten text, likely a letter or document, written in cursive script. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting it was written on a single sheet of paper and then scanned or photographed. The handwriting is dense and fills most of the page.

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