

Friday 12 October 1945

(21)

Bunny Darling;

Here it is Pauline's birthday. I forgot to make her a birthday card so I wrote her a letter instead. She is now eighteen years old. It makes me feel like an old man to think of her being that old. When will you be eighteen Darling. Will it be soon?

There was no mail from you this noon but I did get a letter from Swifty. His letter contained both good and bad news. The good news is that he has been discharged and that he has a job on Long Island where he is teaching. He is getting three thousand dollars a year to start and can work up to thirty nine hundred. That sounds like a good deal. The bad news was very bad, although it could have been worse. The baby that they were having died about a day after it was born. I guess Babe was pretty well broken up about it because she had had so much fun planning for it and making clothes and all. She almost died herself. Swifty got a call from her two days before the baby came telling him that the doctor told her there would be some trouble with the baby and that he should come to her. She was in Palm Beach with her folks to have the baby. Swifty flew there and was there when the baby was born. As I said, it only lived a day though.

The doctor was in doubt as to whether she would live or not for a couple of days so it could have been worse than it was. I hope there was nothing wrong so that they can't have any more children. That would hurt them more than anything. It is funny that the doctor knew that there would be trouble and that Babe's life would be in danger and yet the baby was born alive. Nothing like that will happen to us though Honey. Michael will be a very well behaved little gentleman and I know he won't give you any trouble.

At the present time I am on CQ. As soon as I finish my stay here I am going to go into town to see Gene and Ed Ryan, and maybe Mac will be in there. Ed Ryan is not the fellow who came from Coney Island. That was Sam Tager. You never want to let Ed know you ever said that if you should ever meet him, which you will not since he lives in California, because he would be very much offended. He is somewhat of a dilettante, but is a very nice fellow withal.

There hasn't been an awful lot doing today. The PX got in some new supplies but there was nothing spectacular. I am going to be able to get Bob Neumann a good fountain pen to replace the one I lost on him. I am glad because it has been a long time since I lost it for him. Hoppy was supposed to take over the PX since the fellow who was in charge is going home on points. When they first added the total points since May 12th, they computed them right from when we first came into the army. That way almost everyone lost from one to two points. Now the order came through that all the points should be computed by just adding eight points to everyone's score who was overseas. That gave us all one or two extra points. In my case it just raised me from 56 to 57 so there was no substantial gain. In the case of the fellow who ran the PX though, it made all the difference in the world because when they first added his points up he had 79, and when they retotalled them he had eighty on the nose. That is why he is leaving in such a hurry. They are finally getting our eighty point men out of here and down to the replacement depot where they will have to wait for a ship to take them home. At least they know that all they are waiting for is transportation and that is a big help. I will be so glad when I find out that I am going there. I hope that time will come soon but I don't know. There are a lot more men signing up for that red apple deal than I thought. One tenth of our outfit signed up the first day and in another outfit down the road twenty five percent of the men signed up. That is really going to make a dent in the shipping that is available to take the men home. I just hope that they decide to release some of that world's largest navy to come over here and get us home instead of sending the ships home empty to celebrate Navy Day by staging big naval shows in all the important ports in the States.

Saturday

I am sorry that I left you in such a hurry last night Honey but I had to catch the bus going into town. I went in to see Gene and also saw a movie with Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie. It was called "On Stage Everybody" and was not as bad as the title sounds. We also played some hearts to while away the hours and had some sandwiches and coffee to eat. It seems that the new snack bar in town sells cheese spreads and crackers and the boys got some and also had some pate de fois gras which Gene got from home. All in all it was a very pleasant evening.

Mac has not yet moved into town but got his orders yesterday and will be in in about a couple of days. He may be out here tomorrow if he gets in town by then. He will be only a couple of miles away from here then and we will be able to get together quite often. Now that I am a member of the club, I will have some place to take him when he does come up here.

Daley, the head of our drafting department of Daley and Maurice, has gotten into the bad graces of the officer in charge here by playing hockey too often so I think he will be transferred to G-1 instead of staying here. There really is very little work to do here now and I guess I will handle it all. I have been doing the work in here for the past few weeks anyway so it will make very little difference to me. If Daley is transferred out of here I am going to see about getting a staff sergeancy which he now has because there will be a vacancy here. I may as well get the extra money if I can. It would be a difference of over twenty dollars a month.

There has been a canteenful of coke here on this deal for the past few days and it must taste like the devil now. I just gave it to Bob and Harry and they just about gagged on the stuff. I guess I am just a sadist. But at least I do not go around pulling chairs out from under people. I'm sorry Darling, I won't tease you about that any more. I just couldn't resist.

Someone said today that it was quite possible that the men with over fifty five points would be released sometime after the first of next year. I mean sometime in January. If that were so I would be home in time to carry out our plan of enrolling for the spring term. I hope that I am able to get home by then so we can do as you suggested. That would be the best plan for us I guess. In fact, I am sure of it. I am very anxious to get back so we can start in on housekeeping in our own apartment. That will be very wonderful Sweetheart. This way we will be able to use that cherry wood bed you are getting. Have you heard anything about when they would be getting it? It would be all right if they did not get it for a couple of months yet because we will really not need to have it until I am back and we are married. Then it will find a lot of use. It is just as well that you did order it early because that way we will be sure of getting it in time.

I am really getting to be disgusted with most of the fellows who drink around here. I never saw so many men in all my life who could not hold their liquor worth a damn. It is people like this who provide the WCTU with most of their successful propaganda against alcoholic beverages. These damned guys will stand out in the middle of the road and thumb. The trucks have to swerve way the devil over to the opposite side of the road to avoid hitting them and then won't pick anyone up. They go around town accosting girls and raising all kinds of hell and give these people a pretty low idea of the average American soldier which is probably the right opinion to have because the "average", if you could find such an animal, wouldn't be a very intelligent or well mannered person.

I saw a letter in a magazine the other day, I think it was TIME, which fit my sentiment exactly. The writer said that the American soldier speaks of the low morals among the women in the countries he goes into and all the while he himself is responsible for the state of affairs. We go into a country where there is very little food and where the people are destitute and the soldiers find that they can buy a woman for a little food. It is not so much a matter of lack of morals on the part of the women in this country as it is a lack of morals on the part of the soldier and the necessity of obtaining food on the part of

the girl. Your American soldier is one of the most lewd individuals in the world and has no morals, here I speak of the majority of them. They do with money what other soldiers do with threats, only when the other fellow does it it is called rape. I can see no difference at all. The Americans have made a trail of prostitutes all over the world, and then they dare to criticize the women in the countries in which they have done this. The American soldier has not done a hell of a lot toward creating good feeling between ourselves and the people in these countries we have been in. We have disrupted the whole structure of all the countries and then blame the people in these countries. We patronize their black markets and then deplore the fact that there are such things which fleece the soldiers. America is anything but the friend to all nations, which most of the naive American people think is the case. I think we are probably one of the most hated nations on earth and shall be until we really join in with all the other nations and try to raise the level of life in all countries. There I go trying to reform the world again. It just gets me sore to see things like this happen though.

I will have to hurry back to the barracks to see if I have any mail from you today. I hope that I have. I am very hungry for a letter from you. It is too bad the mail I send is so slow in reaching you because you have to answer letters that I have written a month or so ago. It used to be nice when it only took our letters about a week each way. I think the service will be bad from now on in too because they will be using the planes to take men home in, I hope. At least that is ~~what~~ what they say they are going to do. The more men they get home the better I like it because this means that I will get home that much sooner. We just sent out our eighty point men this morning, they were supposed to be out of here by the end of last month but are just getting out now. Maybe before the end of this month, they will have gotten pretty well through the seventy point men and will be ready for the sixty pointers during next month. At that rate they would have them all out by the end of January and maybe I would be on my way home in February.. The sooner the better. While on the subject of getting home Darling, I want to tell you something else which I think would be best during our married life. Most people like to turn out the lights when they are having intercourse but I am different. I think I would like the lights to be on but just to have a very soft light. I want to see you. I love you and think you are the nicest person in the world to look at and I do not like the idea of ~~me~~ hiding your ~~light~~ beauty under a veil of darkness. I want to enjoy every expression that flits across your face and want to be able to see that I am thrilling you just as much as I want to. Do you agree with me that this would be better than having the room in total darkness? I hope so because this is one of my pet subjects and theories. I love you Darling and want to just drink in your beauty all the time.

It is now afternoon and I am back here in the office as relief CQ. I have

to tell you of the asinine order that was put up on the bulletin board today. It concerned the proper wearing of shoes. The gist of it was that we have to lace our shoes so that one pair of them are laced criss cross and ~~to the~~ the other pair are laced horizontally. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays we have to wear the first pair, and on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays we wear the second pair. On Sundays I guess we are supposed to go without shoes. Have you heard of anything sillier than this Honey?

John Kowalchuk seems to think that the next step will be the order that on M.W. and F we will have to wear our pants with the penis hanging down the right leg and on T.Th. and S it must hang down the left pant leg. This is to equalize the wear on both legs of our trousers. He also suggested spot checks by the officers to see that this is carried out. It is just as logical as their idea concerning the shoes so don't laugh.

They are really reaching far and wide to think of new ideas to make life

more unbearable for us than it is now. And god knows it is bad enough now.

I had to sign the payroll this afternoon and I noticed that they had made the entry stating that I was eligible for longevity pay of \$8.90. I had hoped I would never get the opportunity to draw this but I guess there was something wrong with my hopes because here I am still in the army. At least I know that another year will find me out of the army and safely married to you for good and for always, to be with you forever. That is wonderful to look forward to Honey. There is not another person in the world I want to spend that much time with. You are the only one for me and you shall be forever.

One of the officers was just moaning to me about the beating he took when he got his last promotion. It seems that he has enough points so that as a captain, he could have gone home about a month or so ago. He was promoted to major though and has to wait a while longer because officers from major on up have to have more points to be discharged. I know how he feels. I would feel the same way. In fact I do feel the same way. I feel that the army is giving me the dirty end of the stick as they are to all of us who have been in the army for any length of time. We were supposed to be out of this six months after the end of the war, but they have decided that the war is not yet over. On the other hand they turn around and give back some ships to the companies which own them because the army just took them over until the war ended. When it suits their purposes the war is over, but when it concerns us it is still on in full swing.

I have to leave you now Darling so I will send you all the love in the world from me to you

It is all yours

FOREVER.

Freddie