

(25)

Friday 4 May 1945
HQ 14AA Command
APO 322, Fuzes.

Beautiful Darling;

This first part of the letter shall be quite short of necessity because it is late and the lights shall be going out any minute now. I do want to get this letter started to let you know how very much I love you. I want to tell you that every day to impress it deeply on your mind. I do love you very deeply Darling, remember that always, and remember that the day will come when we will be together again, for good.

I just got back from the show where I saw the picture "Roughly Speaking" from the book of the same name. It was a very good picture and I enjoyed it very much, Jack Carson and Rosalind Russell are both very good. I believe you read the book didn't you? I enjoyed the book very much also.

Oh! Oh! There is the bugle call for lights out, so I'll leave you for now Honey with a big hug and kiss to last you till I'm back tomorrow. I'll meet you in our usual dream, don't be late.

Saturday 5 May

It's a very good morning my Darling.

It seems that our European war is in still further disintegration and that the armies in northern Europe have followed the lead of those in Italy and western Austria and have surrendered to our armies. By the time you receive this letter the war there should be all over. This is wonderful because then it may be that this war here will possibly be over fairly soon. I hope so.

very desperately. It will be so nice to get home to you.

On the radio last night a new bill was announced as having been introduced in Congress providing for a bonus of \$50 per week for a year for every returning G.I. The congressman who introduced it had the backing of Senator Rankin and several other high ranking members of Congress and the opinion that the bill would be passed by a large majority. I don't know whether it will be passed or not, but if it is passed it will really be a great help to us Honey. That would mean an additional \$1000 for our postwar planning. Very nice that would be.

Our work is still continuing at quite a rapid pace. Today we have to assemble the booklets which I told you I illustrated a while ago. That will be a heck of a job because the sheets will have to be cut apart and then reassembled.

Saturday Night

Here I sit writing to you while over the jungle radio comes the strain of Lawrence Tibbett's voice raised in song. The song being "Accentuate the negative". Rather unusual for him to be singing this type of song but he did all night!

We had a big day today. I spent the whole morning using the paper cutter to cut the pages of the booklets to exact size, and I spent the afternoon stapling the various sheets of the booklet together. We got about $\frac{3}{5}$ of them done which I consider darned good work. I'm glad every day isn't like this, I'd lose weight and drop off to a shadow. Incidentally I am continuing with my program of slenderizing through exercising and am

3

coming along fine. This valley ball is a darned good sport for conditioning and, especially when played with six men on a side, is very fast. It's great for sharpening the reflexes. I find that I am steadily improving in my game too. In a few days I think well be able to challenge one of the other teams around here to a game.

Today brought with it letters from Dan Reid, Sam, and one from you my Darling. Dan says that you must have been mistaken about seeing him in that newsreel of ~~him~~ Manila, because that is not where he is stationed. He has visited there, but since you claim to have seen the picture. Are you sure the newsreel was of Manila? He says that there are quite a few gals up there who have chosen to tread the primrose path in search for that stuff called filth money, but that the ordinary Filipino gal is about as approachable as the crown jewels of England. One of the fellows with him is engaged to be married to a girl and he has never been with her except when she was accompanied by seven members of her immediate family. He has held her hard, fleetingly, on two different occasions. Oh well, I'm not interested in women anyway, am I Darling? Except for you that is, and you hold a powerful lot of interest for me Honey. A lifetime of interest to be exact, and I mean interest too. You are my interest in life Honey, the only thing that really matters to me. It's too bad you can never realize how nice, how really very nice, it is to be in love with you and to know that I am loved by you. It just fills me with a warm glow whenever I think of it. It is perhaps the most satisfying ~~feeling~~ feeling in the world. I know that it is the most satisfying I could ever experience.

At the risk of offending those very innocent and shelllike ears of yours, it seems to me that I am talking with you all the while I write, I will pass on to you a story passed on to me by Sam Reid, to whom it was related by Compaan, who got it from his wife in one of her letters. After she had heard it from a girl she worked with. Now that I have laid the foundation for the story so here goes. "Do you know what the egg said to the chicken? It said, 'Now that you've laid me, do you still love me?'" There is also another copy of Command Car being formulated so I'll write Mac and have him include you on the mailing list.

I'm not sure if you know, or knew, Madam Hoppe who taught French in ASTP. Whether you knew her or not, the fact remains that she is going to be an interpreter at the San Francisco Conference. I should say she is since the conference is already in progress. Quite a distinction.

Summing up his love troubles, Sam said, "Since I swapped my raincoat for a poncho things just haven't been the same."

Mom didn't have very much to say in her letter except to tell me that Dad is getting along very well, that Pauline misses Charlie very much, he is in the airborne infantry in Europe and I hope he is in that new 15th Army, the army of occupation so that even though he is away for quite a while he will be fairly well out of harm's way. Mom and Dad think quite a lot of him.

I won't even refer to your letter which I received today because I still have a letter from you which I have not answered and which I have hoarded

very jealously till now. 5.

Before I forget it Bunny, I'd like to ask you now to send me some air mail stamps. They are very hard to get and my supply is fast dwindling. I don't want to write free mail because it takes so long and I'll be damned if I'll use V-mail which I hate to receive and therefore feel that people at home do not like ^{them} any better.

I'm sorry that the censor sometimes mixes up the pages of my letters. I imagine it must be quite confusing at times. You can't really blame the censors though because I don't imagine they care too much for their job which must be rather boring. Maybe just for variety and to liven things up, they cross you up on a page once in a while. Pity the poor censor with a job like his.

You asks me how Swiftly can be so sure of what kind of person you are when he has not even met you. He knows because I told him just what kind of person you are, very nice too, and Swiftly has known me long enough and well enough to place much faith in my judgment. My opinion of you is, not in the least biased. In fact, I'm sure that, as much as I appreciate you at the present time, I will find after I have lived a lifetime with you I will realize that I had only started to appreciate you at this time. And you think my present opinion of you is biased.

Here is Swiftly's picture for you. The whole Swift family for that matter. I am very anxious for you to meet them because they are very nice. They have a wonderful sense of humor. Of course I should tell you now that Babe once told me that next to Swiftly, I was her best boy friend. You don't mind do you Honey?

I got the sample of Apple Blossom and I agree with you that it is not as good as The Heaven Scent. But I still think that your Tigris is better than any of them, probably because there are many pleasant memories attached to it for me. Mmmmm!! I'd love to have you locked in these two arms of mine right now Sweetheart, so I could press you very close to me and never let you go. I'd just like to breathe in the sweet fragrance of you forever.

Goodbye now Sweetheart, Here is another kiss by proxy which will be collectable upon our reunion.

I love you my Darling.

Freddie