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Monday 27 August 45
Hq 14th AAA Command
APO 75, Fuzio.

Good Evening Sweetheart;

Another letterless day has passed. I thought sure I would get a letter from you today but, no such luck. I wish they'd get on the ball and get the mail coming in here regularly for a change. I want mail from you and I want it badly. It cheers me up very much & more.

This has been quite a dreary and uneventful day. It has threatened rain and been dark as the devil but the rain never did come. At least it is tolerably cool at the present time, more than can usually be said about the weather here.

On checking up on the Bill ~~of~~ Rights (the G I one) I discovered that the allowance per month while going to school has been, or is in the process of being, increased to \$85 or more. Every little bit helps you know. There were some suggestions in today's Pacifican, suggestions made by the American Legion and the VFW. They recommend compulsory military training, they would; first preference for G I's in public and private industry; and a bonus of \$3 for every day spent in the States in the Army and \$400 for each day overseas. They expect the government to payout a lot of money to finance their recruiting drive for new members. I think that the ~~an~~ average G I is fairly well satisfied with the Bill of Rights and the same chance for a job that anyone else has. To tell the truth, I have saved more money since I got into the army than I could ever have saved in a civilian job. I did spend most of my savings on my furloughs but I have saved about \$1,000 since I got overseas, which ain't bad. Of course I wish it was many times that but I'll be satisfied

as it is. We should be able to get along quite well while I am going to school. We'll have the \$5 a month, plus what you will earn, plus what incidental money I can pick up with my drawing. We shouldn't get along badly at all. As long as I'm married to you I will be getting along very well indeed, even if I didn't have a cent.

Delving further into what I read in the paper, I understand that there shall soon be a plentitude of nylon stockings; enough for eleven pair for every woman within several months. When I return your gams shall undoubtedly be sheathed in the sheerest of yarns. Silk and nylon stockings are a great thing. They improve the feminine leg a great deal, not ~~that~~ that yours need the improvement, but I rank them right along with the bra as insurance for the feminine form. Of course I should mention the girdle too. All of these aids must have a good basic figure to work on though and their job is reduced to a minimum in your case because just as you are you are all that I could ever want. You're perfect for me Honey.



Farther on in the article they explained that there would be a shortage of other clothing. I'll probably have a hell of a time getting my trousseau together for our honeymoon. Maybe by the time I get home they'll have the clothes situation smoothed out a little and I'll be able to get some. I hope so. I also hope it isn't long before I am home with you Darling. The radio announcer just said that all 85 pointers would be home by November. He did not mention the 44 pointers though so I'll just have to be content to wait and wait and wait and hope. If wishes eliminated miles, I would have been with you long ago.

At the present time I am snowed under with good reading material. I have "War and Peace", "The Republic" by Charles Beard, "The Tragedies of ~~Shakespeare~~ Shakespeare" which I ~~had~~ bought in Pocket Edition form at the P. H. "Meeting On the Bounty", and "Between Two Worlds". With all this, I should be quite well set for a while.

The cover on yesterday's letter, the awarding of the medals, was inspired by a mass handing out of bronze stars here Saturday. It is given for "meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty." The same day these stars were given out to fellows for their work in the office, there was an article in the Pacifican which told of a group of suicide swimmers we had, whose job was to swim a mile through a rough surf with 50 pounds of high explosives strapped to their backs. They had to fasten these charges to underwater obstacles and then get away before the explosion occurred. They were usually under enemy fire during their work. For this, they received bronze stars. All of which goes to prove something or other, just what I don't know though.

Here comes the rain. I expected it all day and now, at 9:00 it finally comes. Just before Harry has to go out on guard too. He just told me that he has an inside post so my sympathy for him was wasted. Tomorrow night I am on guard. It rolls around too damned often to suit me though. I guess I can stand it but I don't like it at all, particularly if it rains tomorrow.

The trip down to where Mac is stationed is very interesting. It goes through several fairly small villages which are quite picturesque, especially when seen from the elevated station of a truck. Now don't get me wrong, I'm

not intentionally a peeping ⁴Tom, I'm just curious. All the houses along the way are on stilts which are just high enough so that the windows are about on a level with the eyes of anyone riding in the back of a truck. It is the closest I've gotten to the inside of a Filipino home. Most of them are quite bare except for some religious pictures or a diploma if one of the members of the family has graduated from school. The rooms are quite small and most of the houses I saw appeared to have three rooms. A main front room and two small back rooms . The horse is usually stabled under the house, which, as I said before is on stilts. The windows open like sliding doors and ~~are~~ do not have glass panes. The window is broken up so that it consists of many small panes, about three inches or so ~~the~~ square. These panes are made of translucent shell. The window in the front room is very large and extends almost across the front of the house.  They have thatch roofs. Many of the houses are surrounded by shade trees. The people in these outlying villages dress quite simply. Most of the women just wear a very loose fitting dress made of any material they are able to get, including sun tan and fatigue uniforms. The lack of clothing among the children is the same as here except that it extends to slightly higher age groups. The only thing these kids wear is something which resembles a hospital johnny. For some reason, the girls seem to acquire underwear at an earlier age than the boys.

One habit these people have which is hard to get used to is their habit of stopping to relieve themselves by the side of the road. This habit is much more prevalent

among the men than it is among women, but both of them do it and think nothing of it. This is only true ^{to any great extent} of the people who live in the country. In the cities the customs are more like our own in dress and everything else.

Most of the girls have rather long blue-black hair which they delight in braiding and arranging in all sorts of ways. They take great pride in their hair and have some kind of bark extract which they use to wash it instead of using soap. Some few of them have permanents but I think it spoils their hair. I don't care too much for hair which has ~~to~~ undergone permanent wave treatment. Hair looks much better natural and, even if it is straight, it can be fixed up in many ways so that it looks very nice.

It is rather late Sweetheart, so I shall give you a nice big kiss and hurry to my rendezvous with you in the northeast corner of a dream. Goodnight my sweet Darling. I love you with all my heart, soul and being.

Always.

Freddie