

Tuesday 11 September 1945

[10]

Hq 14th AA Command

APO 75, Frisco

Bunny Sweetheart;

Finally they broke down and sent one of your letters on through Honey. They are taking eleven or more days to get here now. I hope mine are getting through in better time than that. It was very nice to hear from you again, your letters always cheer me up so very much. They are the only rays of sunshine in a very dark existence over here. It's like struggling through a heavy fog trying to find the sunlight and having stray beams break through from time to time reassuring one that there is sunshine ahead, and giving the strength to continue on in search of it. I know that I shall be with you again but I have to struggle through a terribly deep and heavy curtain of time to be with you again. Time is my worst enemy. I wish it were already that happy tomorrow which shall find me back with you once more to be with you forever.

The army promises to have all of us home by next June and I'm hoping they know what they're saying. They should I guess. I have enough points so I won't be one of the last to go home either. That March estimate I made sounds good to me. You can have your [crossed out 'torso'] (oops pardon me, I meant trousers) all ready by then and we shall really become man and wife both legally and physically. Spiritually, I could never be more your husband than I am now. That is just what I think of myself as, Darling. We belong to each other for always and are perfectly suited for marriage. All we have to do now is complete our marriage legally and physically. All the while until I am back with you just remember and tell yourself over and over that I love you. I shall never give you a chance to forget it by telling you so in all my letters. I want so much to let you know just how

2.

much I do love you. It seems impossible because words just are not adequate for that. You needn't worry about my staying over here for a long period of occupation duty so you won't have to even think of coming out here. If I were stuck out here though, you can be sure that I would do everything in my power to figure out a way for you to come over here so we could be married. Yesterday's report about getting men home has erased all my fears of an indefinite exile over here. I'll be with you next summer, never fear.

Your idea for a wedding gown sounds very nice Darling. I like the idea of having a white strapless formal gown with a marquisette jacket, not only from the point of view of economy, but also because I think it would look very nice. I know what marquisette is and like it very much, it is pretty. It would be economical too because you could wear the formal afterward, and that way you can get yourself a very good formal dress, paying for it what we would pay for a wedding gown. I have a very clever and a practical wife as well as the very most beautiful. What are you thinking of getting in the way of a veil Darling, and what kind of flowers would you like to have. I want something tangible on which to base my day dreams.

Be sure to send the latest snaps you took as soon as possible Honey. I'm anxious to see them. Especially to see the new white and yellow shorts you said you had on in the pictures. I like pictures of

you in shorts. You have very beautiful legs and they should be shown. They are very shapely, just enough so to be very beautiful. And don't give me that song and dance which you usually do about their not really being beautiful. After all, you can't see them the way I can and I tell you they're beautiful so that's all there is to it. They're beautiful!!!

3.

For want of anything better to do I went to the show to see again, a picture I have already seen. It was the screwball murder story "Murder, He [scratched out word] Says". Another night in that damned barracks and I'd have had the screaming meemies [sic]. I rather enjoyed seeing the picture again though. It was crazy but fairly amusing.

In search of diversion, I have started to read Thorne Smith's "night Life of the Gods". It is a very amusing story, risqué as hell but very good. I sometimes think he is one of the few sane people in a world of zanies who never bother to enjoy themselves. Life should be a little more like his books and everyone would have more fun. One of his characters, a lusty and lascivious 900 year old leprechaun (female), has a habit of calling step ins – pull offs instead. I think it is a much more appropriate name for the things. The only thing I do not like about his books is that they end. They should just go on and on, never-endingly. What do you think of his work? Or haven't you read much of it?

The past two nights [scratched out word] I have ridden into town with one of the boys to get some ice for the NCO club – no I am not a member of it, I just go in for the ride since there is no work involved. They can say what they want about the Army not going to do the rebuilding of Manila but it looks to me as though the Army is doing all the road repairing around here. The roads sure need it though because they are really in bad shape. Even the best highways are pretty well pounded to hell. In a way, I think it is only right that the engineers should help with the repair work while they are here because Army vehicles are largely responsible for the breaking up of the roads.

4.

One of the fellows gave me a price list of jewelry made in the Fiji Islands. I've seen some of the stuff and it really is beautiful. They have some silver Filigree sets, necklace, ear lobes [sic], brooch, and bracelet which I think you'd like. I know they'd look very nice on you. If you don't want them it is too late now because I'm going to send for them. Since they are all silver they will go with anything you wear and you can wear different combinations of the set. Take my word for it that it is nice though Honey because it is. It is stuff which would be hard to get in the States.

They also sell cateyes [sic] by the hundred. If I can scrape up the money sometime before I go home I think I'll get a hundred. They are like a gem and some of them are really very nice. We could fool around in our spare time making jewelry with them. We could design the jewelry ourselves. It would be fun to do this in our spare time. It all depends on the condition of my purse. There are so many things I want to get, if only I had the money. I think I'll get Mom and Pauline some of that Fiji jewelry for their Christmas presents.

I'll have to leave you now Honey. Goodnight sweet Darling. What I said before about thinking of you always is even more true at bedtime. I have a awful time going to sleep because every time I close my eyes I can picture you there with me or picture you just as you were when I was with you last and that makes it hard to go to sleep.

I love you desperately Darling

With every fiber of my being.

And I shall continue to love you

Always

Freddie