

Tuesday 28 August 1945

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Hq 14th AA Command

APO 75, Frisco

Bunny Darling;

I'm getting quite desperate waiting for some of your letters to get through. It has been about six days now since I got my last letter from you. That is an awfully long time Honey. The only letter I've gotten from anyone since then is a letter from Jim Martine which just came through today. It was written the 17th so it was eleven days in getting here. I don't know what is slowing up the mails so but I hope the situation is remedied soon because I'm really starved for news from you. I love you so my Darling.

Another evening on guard for me. I have to go on in just about an hour. It won't be bad though. I just have to post the guard and then I'm going to go to the office and draw up a couple of envelope covers for yesterdays and todays letters. Yes Darling, I haven't yet drawn up the envelope for yesterday's letter but I'll get it mailed first thing in the morning along with this one.

This evening I read "Romeo and Juliet" for the first time. I really enjoyed it very much. Shakespeare well deserved his reputation because he can, with a word, paint a picture that would require many words in the telling by any other author. The phrase, "come civil night, thou sober suited nation, all in black," is one example which sticks in my mind. His mastery of the written language is really wonderful. I can't see how the Watch and Ward Society of Boston ever let his work get by though, unless their minds are so pure that they cannot appreciate the humor and double

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meaning in his work. This is my first serious venture into the reading of W. Shakespeare. I did read some of his work in high school but didn't appreciate it because I was being forced to read it.

Grim's letter was quite interesting. He is just about finished at Ann Arbor; in fact by this time he is finished and has his M.A. He also has a new job teaching history in North Adams, Mass. He tells me this job is not complicated by coaching or by being a member of the volunteer firemen. These were his incidental duties in Lancaster, along with the organization of and participation in Ear Bond drives. He is now wearing glasses because of the strain of all the studying he has had to do. He also tells me that his hair has returned to normal now. I'm glad to hear that because he was very sensitive about the loss of his hair. I'm glad it grew back. He is a damned nice fellow. In closing his letter he adds a little scientific fact to the effect that "Scientists eliminate that space has a diameter of 588,081,711,111,100,000,000,000,000 miles." To which I may add the query – after that, what?

John and I just had a little discussion on the above question and it, just as it always does, ended up with the thought that, if there is an end to space, what comes after that? An assuming thought to ponder on if one is in a pondering mood. Since I am not, I shall straightaway drop the subject.

At last the invasion of Japan is well under way. It took enough time for them to get it started. I'll be glad when the main part of the job is over so they can concentrate on getting me home to you. I hunger for the feel of your arms around me, the feel of your eyes, warm and soft on mine, and of the

very thrilling softness of you held very close to me. I want very much to make you my wife and to be with you forever.

3.

Tomorrow morning I have to go out to where Mac is to get my rain coat which I forgot there Sunday. I'm always forgetting that damned thing, no matter where I go. If I leave here at about 8:00 in the morning, I should be back about noon. I'll have to put a chain on the raincoat and fasten it to myself.

Our guard mount is now quite an elaborate affair. We even have the band out there to serenade us. While we were being inspected, they played a nice dreamy waltz, and later, when the officer of the day was giving us our instructions, they played a nice blary march which drowned out the poor guys voice.

It is now very early morning. I had to leave you to post the guard last night, then I went to the office and drew the covers for this and the previous letter. That just about took up the 2 ½ hours of guard and I retired to my little cot to get a few, very few it seemed, hours of sleep before getting up again. At the present time I am up again, very sleepy indeed, and have just posted the last guard. All I have to do now is sweat out 8:00, which should in no wise be too hard since I am writing to you.

All went well last night until right at the end of my first shift when a call came through for the sergeant of the guard to go up to headquarters where a sailor was creating a disturbance. Since the sergeant of the guard had already gone up there on his tour of inspection, I figured there was no need of my bothering – I am only a corporal of the guard so I just ran off to bed.

4.

The damn fool bugler just blew assembly, at 6:00 in the morning I don't think he knows the difference between that and first call. At any rate, he blew it much too early even for first call. Several disgruntled people have been down here inquiring as to his whereabouts with a very malicious gleam in their eye. They are changing buglers about everyday now, using the trumpet men in the band and most of them either don't know or don't care what the calls are.

I was just wondering whether it would be best for me to try to finish college in one year by including all my ASTP credits, or take two years. If I did take all those credits, they'd be in languages and geography and would not count toward my major. I do not have very many art credits at present and may not be able to pick up enough for a major in one year. In that case I'd have to go two years. I am quite set on the idea of taking art courses, education courses and possibly a little history to tie in with the other two. It may be best if I do take two years. What do you think Honey? Since you shall be very much affected by the decision, it lies half with you. Before I used to toy idly with the idea of going to school when the war ended. The end seemed far away so there seemed to be no pressing need for action and decisive thought right away. Now that it seems my months overseas are numbered, I have to start in mapping out all my plans for my return to school. I'd like to have everything planned out so that we shall be able to enjoy our vacation to the full without having to disturb ourselves about arrangements. If I know just what I want I can make arrangements now.

5.

I just finished breakfast, have washed, and am now just about ready to go out and see that the guard is relieved. Then my job is caput until this afternoon when I have to trudge out and stand guard mount again. It gets very monotonous. Then for a quick trip down to get my raincoat.

I must leave you now my Darling, but only till I return from my trip. Goodbye Sweetheart. All my love is with you

Always,

Freddie