

Thursday 23 August 45

[96]

Hq 14th AA Command

APO 75, Frisco

Bunny Darling;

As you already know, I got the photos back from the studio today. They did not turn out too good. The background is much too light and there isn't enough contrast. At least they are better, or at least larger, than regular snapshots. I got five of them instead of four. I didn't realize I had perspired as much as I seem to have. It was hot as the devil and, before the afternoon was over, I was dripping wet. I'm also sending you the negative because I don't have any use for it. The extra print is for your mother and father just so they'll have something to remind them of me while we are on our vacation. There's a fellow, at the same place I had the pictures taken, who does some pretty good pencil sketches. As soon as I get rich again, I'll have to have him do a portrait of me. I'll show you under with pictures of me.

I'm back from my Thursday night class now and in fine writing shape. I just went to the Philippine History course tonight and did not bother with the class in Tagalog. I think that class is a waste of time because we use the GI handbook on the language as a guide and I can learn what is in that on my own hook. I think I can get as much by myself as I could get in the class. I may see about getting into the art class for that other hour and a half. I saw Casey today and he thinks he too will try getting into the art course.

Kowalchuk just burned me up. I started to talk to him seriously about some of the stuff we had in class tonight and he started injecting wise cracks about the stuff I was speaking of. He has a habit of doing that which irks me terrifically. It's getting so I don't even bother to try to talk to him any more. These remarks he makes are of the

2.

pseudo – cynical variety. I suppose I shouldn't let anything like that bother me but it does. I have been rather irritable of late. It must be the war situation at present with all the uncertainties. I have just been very much on edge. Everybody seems to bother me. What I need is you, just to be with you, to have you in my arms kissing you and telling you how much I love you. I just can't put it all on paper Darling, but I could show you with words, supplemented by actions, just how very much it is. Darling, it seems ages since we were last together. It is almost a year now and in that year I have come to realize more and more that you are the most important thing that has ever come into my life. You are my life Darling, everything that matters at all. I just have to get back to you soon.

Some of the officers came into the class tonight to take pictures, publicity stuff, of a class in action. They bought the chairs in close to Mrs. Carpio's desk and then got a "representative group" of students in the class to sit in the chairs. This "representative group" consisted of 2 naval officers, one nurse, a Wac officer, a couple of enlisted Wacs, a Filipino, a captain, two lieutenants, and, off in the corner where he was hidden by the desk, a GI sergeant. The other twenty five GIs in class, myself included looked on at the whole performance and the other fellows looked as disgusted as I felt. Not that I cared about having my pictures taken, it's just that this kind of stuff irks me. Now they'll print a picture of the class and people will assume that the "officers are right on the ball and look at all of them

in that class". I'm making it sound rather dramatic but slights like that are thrown at GIs from all sides and it gets tiresome as hell after a while. See! I told you I was mad at the world.

3.

My laundry finally came back and it was done very well. I was glad to note that there was none of this "up to you, Joe," when I paid the bill. There was a list of prices beside all the articles I sent. I brought a couple of candy bars for the kids when I went to get the laundry. They're quite shy and when I offered them the candy they blushed to beat the devil and didn't seem to know whether they should take it or not. I guess their mother told them about accepting gifts from strange men. They did finally decide that it was all right and thanked me for the candy. They are very nice kids.

It's quite late Honey, so here's a nice big goodnight kiss to remind you that I love you and shall be back with you in the morning. Goodnight.

Friday Morning

Good Morning Beautiful;

Wipe that sleep out of your eyes and get those sleep webs out of our brain because you are going to be given a very nice good morning kiss and I want you to be fully awake. I love you Darling. Now to get on with the letter.

I plan on getting out to see Mac again this weekend. If I can get Sunday morning off, I'll go over there Saturday night and make a week end of it. I guess I told you that Mac seems to be playing second fiddle to a job now. Jere got herself a job in Detroit and is so much taken up by it that she doesn't write any more. Don't you even dare do that. Mac will be up to Michigan after the war regardless though, because his uncle in Bottle Creek has promised him a car if he'd come to Battle Creek to get it. He'll visit us when he does get there. Mac is a darned nice fellow but I still don't think Jere is the girl for him. I never cared much for her. She seemed too artificial.

4.

This evening I'm going to drop into town to see Paul Katona. I haven't seen him for weeks now and he probably thinks I've died or gone home.

[Crossed out word] Yesterday afternoon I visited Casey and he took me down to their PX which is like a super department store. They had just about everything there including clothes, food, candy, ice cream, coke, etc. I had some ice cream, hamburgers, and grapefruit juice, and was able to buy some shower clogs and Jantzen bathing trunks. I'll use the trunks mainly for playing volleyball and basketball because there's no place around here to go swimming except a pool down the way which is reserved for officers. There is a pool at Welfareville where enlisted men could go swimming, but it was condemned by the medics as unsanitary for swimming. That's life for you.

Well, Sweetheart, once more it is time to go to work. Here's a nice big kiss for you just for meaning so much to me and for being as sweet, lovely and lovable as you are. I love you with all my heart and soul and shall

Forever,

Freddie