

Wednesday 22 August 1945

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Hq 14<sup>th</sup> AA Command

APO 75, Frisco

Bunny Sweetheart;

Today, the day of the 14<sup>th</sup> Command's super colossal dance, it rains. It is really raining to beat the devil too. It started just a couple of minutes ago and was preceded by a terrific wind. I hope it lets up soon because it would be a shame to have it raining for the dance. It would spoil everything. Don't snicker. I have been offered two dates but have turned them both down. I'll give all the girls a break instead of only one. One of the dates I almost had was with the cousin of the girl one of the fellows here goes with. On the other deal, John Kowalchuk tried to get me to take a girl who had been stood up, or is going to be. I heeded your advice about John, and refused. There are supposed to be about 150 girls there stag and someone will have to dance with them. Don't worry about me now, I will be very well-behaved and a model of platonicy. You believe me don't you Honey? Being in love with you I will not go astray. Just remembering of you and thinking of you is better than being with anyone else. Being with you, as I hope to be soon, will be just like being on a cloud a million miles above the earth. That's what I want our life to be Honey, always perfect as I know it can be. With you there it could be nothing else.

This noon brought another letter from you. I'm so glad they've started coming in again. That letterless week was a very bad one and I hope I see no more until I am on the ships sailing home. In these last few letters you seem to have been as excited as I was about the surrender news. This one today was written during that hectic week end when we were waiting for Japan's reply to our message. I felt just the way you did about the Japs. Before that I had never hated them, I knew they had to be defeated but there was no sense

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of hatred in this knowledge. If they had refused our surrender terms and continued a war which they had already lost, I was all set to do some mighty tall hating though. It would have been so hopeless and insane for them to have done anything but what they did.

Whew! Whew! I just got a letter containing the latest pictures you sent – the boudoir series. They are very nice Darling and very disturbing. Your new nightgown is very lovely. You look very disturbing in it to say the least. How I wish I could see it and not just pictures of it. Of course I mean that I want to see it with you in it. In those pictures, where is the other pillow for me. You seem to have both of them. I hope you realize that when we're married we share the pillows and you don't get both of them. Darling, I am so very anxious to take my place beside you with you just where you are in the photo. By the way, who took the pictures? Was it your mother? Keep the pictures coming Honey, the more I have, the better I like it. I'll have to go down town tomorrow and get the pictures I had taken Sunday. I'll mail them, or it to you in tomorrow night's letter. I hope they come out all right. Then you'll be able to judge for yourself if I have put on too much weight.

I don't think you have to worry about my not getting home by next December a year from this. I think that I can assure you I shall be home before then. I still think I stand a good chance of being with you for that date on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March. Don't bet that I won't be.

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Give to the kids who pick up my laundry. They'll probably like them. I don't seem to care so much for sweets of late. I don't know why but any candy or anything sweet just has no appeal. This is limited to food and not to you. You are very sweet and at the same time are more appealing to me every day.

Looking at the pictures again I notice that the mole is in none of them. Tch! Tch! So, hiding that birthmark are you? Too bad you don't have any pictures with it. If you ever have one taken send it along post haste.

It seems that the rain has cancelled delivery of my laundry and I have to borrow some from one of the fellows. Van Fossen just volunteered to let me borrow some of his pants. I have a pair of his which are 31-31. I didn't think I'd even be able to get into them but they don't fit bad at all. Maybe I've started losing weight again.

I can't decide whether I like your hair up or down. It looks nice both ways. You can just vary it, wearing it first one way and then the other.

How is your arm now Darling? I hope you didn't do any permanent damage to it when you hit it. Why aren't you more careful. Do you always go around damaging things that belong to other people? If not why do you do things like this to you; you belong to me you know so be very careful. You don't catch me crashing into lamp posts do you? Were you perfectly sober at the time? Let me smell your breath. It seems funny that a big girl like you should go down a street careening from one lamp post to another. I'll have to get home to you so I can start taking care of you. That's what you need, and that, incidentally, is what I need – a little taking care of by you.

Have you played tennis again lately? I like the game very much although I haven't played it for quite a while. Foster and I used to play every afternoon in spring and summer when we were at school. Are there courts anywhere near the cottage Honey? We'll have to do some playing on our vacation. You'll probably start practicing now so you can get the

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drop on me and beat me when I get back.

I thought they wanted too much for those tablecloths downtown. The ones I was looking at were not especially large and they cost \$50 and up. They had some real large ones there which sold for \$150 and up. It's impossible to buy anything now, the prices are so high. The Army has succeeded in bringing the prices on some things down. Prices for food and liquor have started to come down a little. The army snack bars are responsible for the drop in food juices – a GI can get a hamburger or a steak sandwich for a dime, nickel cokes, nickel cream puffs, fresh baked cookies, and candy bars. It is a very good deal. Someone said that the army is also threatening to open up liquor bars in town. I do know that prices for liquor have been cut almost in half from what they were when I just got here. If this keeps up, and more supplies come over from the States for civilian consumption here, it may not be too long before prices start down on a wide scale.

What is this dresser scarf you just made? You didn't tell me anything about the fact that you were taking up needle work. At the rate you are making and collecting things, we'll have our house furnishing by the time I get back. That will be very nice and will save us a lot of shopping for little things

which are always overlooked when a newly married couple get the things they need. Have you noticed any apartments which would be well suited to our needs Darling. You'd better keep a weather eye peeled so we'll have a place after we get married. I wouldn't care for anything too far from school because then I'd have to get up too early to go to school. Of course I could always plan my work so that I had no eight o'clock classes. Then, if you had a part time job where you didn't have to go to work till late, everything would be swell. We could get that much more rest in the morning. We would also have a lot of time to read the

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morning papers. I wish there were some way we could have breakfast in bed too. Have you found out any more about that cherry bedroom set? You haven't forgotten about it have you? Do we have any money left in the fund now? I haven't sent any for quite a while but will get on the ball and send some soon. As soon as I can earn a little. I want to swell the fund so we'll be able to get the set when we are married. I love you my darling. It's something I can't do anything about and don't want to. This love is just there and keeps growing all the time. Beautiful Darling.

Thursday Morning

Back again the morning after. The dance was quite a success. There were quite a few girls there and everyone had a nice time. During intermission there was a show put on by the kids at the orphanage in Welfareville. They were damned good, especially for kids. The best I've seen yet. They're just little bits of kids and have their own string orchestra which is really very professional. The xylophonist is as good as I have heard anywhere. Some of the other kids danced folk dances and their sense of timing was marvelous. I enjoyed this show tremendously. The kids were all dressed in the costumes of the provinces the dances originated in. Then, to spoil things, some special service hillbilly gang came on the scene. People overseas must think that America is a land of hillbilly wailers. The dancing itself was pretty good. Another fellow and myself both danced with the same girl quite a bit. She was a survivor of Intramuros. Sometime during the evening she got the idea that I was a wolf – honest Darling, I swear I made no passes or nothing and have no idea where she picked up the notion. She introduced me to a friend of hers and, in Spanish, told her that I was a wolf. I know enough Spanish to get the gist of that so I bowed out lightly but politely from that scene. It seems queer, but almost every girl I

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have ever gone with has told me that she thought I was a wolf when I first danced with her or went out with her. I can assure you that I am definitely not the wolf type. At any rate, I do not intend to be that type toward anyone but you, and I fear that I am a rather tame wolf in your hands Darling. Sweetheart, I wish so much that I were in your hands, or your arms to be more exact, right now. That is where I want to be and where I belong. Just to be there with you to be able to show and tell you how very much

I love you

Freddie