

Saturday 14 July 1945

14th AA Command

APO 75, Frisco

Bunny My Darling;

This won't be very long because I am going to the show in a very short while. The picture isn't too good as far as I know. It is "God Is My Co-Pilot". Sounds like a flag waiver to me. I'll have to get there early to get a good seat. They go like hot cakes.

I got three letters from you today. They are coming in in very good order now. In all of them you mention the fact that you have not heard from me in a few days. That's when I was on the move and didn't mail the letters. I wonder what did happen to the letters which I lost. They most likely ended upon a trash can while the jacket and fountain pens were sold on the black market. I guess jackets are quite valuable here. All clothing is for that matter. Once in a while in my journeys into town I could see some GI or sailor swapping some articles of clothing for meals, souvenirs, or women. Another amusing sight was that of two sailors with several knapsacks full of sandwiches which they were selling to the Filipinos. Pardon my writing I was just trying out a new pen point with an upswept rib and it didn't seem to work too well as you can see. I'll have to stick to the standard type.

There's a Cariboo wallow next to our office building and every morning – quite late in the morning, they come over to the field and very slowly eat their way the length of the field. When they reach the end it is about 6:00 PM and they take off for wherever it was that they came from in the first place. It's all quite regular and I haven't seen anyone driving them to or from the field so I guess they get there and leave on their own. Rather intelligent creatures.

Today was quite uneventful and uninspiring. I had to draw a map and that was all. We had the afternoon off because there was a conference in our office. All I did was sleep on my cot in the barracks.

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The time has come for me to go to the show Honey so I'll give you a very nice kiss and say goodnight. I'll be back tomorrow so don't oversleep.

Sunday evening.

Hello again Beautiful;

Here I am, sitting and writing to you as the mosquitos try to eat me alive. They are really terrific. I understand that there are few, if any, anopheles mosquitoes in the vicinity but the others are just as bothersome. I'm all covered with welts. I wish I were with you. This discomfort from the bites would become very insignificant and would not bother me at all if I had you in my arms to have and to hold.

I've spent rather a hectic day today. This morning I was made a separatist. I had to separate a chest of drawers from a wardrobe. It was quite a job and I worked up quite a sweat doing it. Not only was it mailed so the nail heads could not be gotten at, but it was also glued together. It's a wonder I ever got it apart with a little damage as I did. As it was, I nicked the devil out of the thing. My tools consisted of a hammer, a saw, and a screw driver. Quite an assortment.

An article which I read in a Reader's Digest was disconcerting no end. It stated that, after being in the tropics a certain length of time, a man becomes temporarily sterile. This situation is supposed to be relieved upon return to a cooler climate but may recur if warm baths are taken. That would be quite a solution to the birth control problem. I could just continue taking warm baths until such time as we decided to have a baby and then just switch over to icy showers. That would simplify matters considerably but I'm afraid there'd be a snag somewhere and that we would just have to fall back on the tried and tested methods. Oh for the chance to try and test them, that's all I ask. That will be a very glorious experiment Darling, and a very pleasurable one. It's a shame we weren't married before I came overseas, but then I guess

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it would just have made it that much harder being away from you, and god knows it's hard enough now.

I'm glad that Mrs. Strome also approves of me as a husband for you, because I am sure I can fill that bill better than anyone else, and I'm not trying to brag either. The extra flattery you put in about the reaction' you received when you produced my photo will get you nowhere young lady. I love it.

Something new has been added here. It seems that we now have coffee in the mess hall all night long. That is a damned good idea. The General is seeing to it personally that we are well taken care of. This pleases me very much because I could use a little taking care of. I guess we'll have things pretty nice here. Our PX opens Tuesday so we'll be able to buy some of the luxuries of life at a reasonable price. We should also be getting our liquor ration of reasonably good stuff at fair prices. The central PX system is establishing snack bars throughout the city, exclusively for GI's. With all these inaugurations we should have a pretty fair deal here. At least it will be easier on my pocketbook. My buddy Hopkins – who was with me all the way from Camp Grant – is temporarily in charge of the PX. He may get the job permanently because the fellow who is in charge has quite a few points and may go home soon. That would be a good deal for him.

The news is looking good Darling. I hope that the end of the year may see the closing days of the war. It would be so nice if the war would end this year so I could be home with you in March and I could get you for my birthday present. I wouldn't even ask that you be wrapped in cellophane but would take you just as you are. What a tasty dish to find my bride. The news indicates that our generals are becoming more optimistic about this side of the war. God, but I hope they are right.

I also read that thousands of GIs had married French girls in Europe. And I did so want to go to Europe. I'm afraid that you are right though, and that you would have very little to worry about on that score. I have just one desire and that is to

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marry you. You shall give me my hands full so I won't be looking around at other women. You do sound rather sure of yourself though. Although I am told that this [crossed out word] situation should not be the prevailing one, I am afraid that I can't contradict you [crossed out word] but must agree with you that you have every reason to be sure of yourself.

There was an interesting item on the week's resume of the news. It dealt with the strictness now in order in Europe where GIs are being picked up for being out of uniform or for speeding. One

infantry lieutenant was just about fed up with having to dole out punishment to the men and reporting to the Provost marshal just what punishment had been meted out. Finally the straw [crossed out word] which broke the camels back came when the Provost Marshal asked what punishment had been dealt out to a speeder. The tense message "He was shot" was sent in to him.

The arrangement which Ruth's husband has figured out is rather a queer one I must say, although I will say that he is more truthful and fair than most. At least he lets her know where he wants to stand. I can understand him but am afraid that I can't sympathize with him because he has one hell of an outlook. You can rest assured that you shall never have that idea advanced to you. I don't intend to try it and don't think you will. In fact I know damned well you won't. If you could put me off the way you did albeit fate played a small part in that I am sure you won't be letting yourself go with anyone else. God knows I tried. Maybe I should have tried a little harder, but again I say that it must be just as well this way. I'll be back with you and then we can make up for lost time.

So your mother is going to vacation in Canada is she? Stepping out alone. I'm surprised at her. I hope she had a nice vacation though. I'd like to visit Canada someday soon Honey. That will have to be one of our postwar summer vacation

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jaunts. I don't mind her borrowing the slippers as long as you save the nightgown for when I get there. You must look luscious in it.

You're doing an awful lot of reading and buying of books lately aren't you Darling. You must be putting all your pay into them. We'll have a regular library for our home. I have quite a few looks here but I hardly think I'll lug them back to the States. They weigh too darned much. Most of them are Pocket Books anyway.

I hope that job on TB rehabilitation turns out to be something good. It seems that that would be quite worthwhile work for you although I don't know whether it would be very enjoyable work. It won't be a career though, so you have that consolation. It won't be for long. It seems to me that my wife is inclined to be slightly lazy with her ideas of getting a job which would start in August so you would have a nice summer vacation. You sound just like Pauline who is on sick leave from her job but who is spending all her days down at the beach acquiring a nice sun tan.

It would be very nice if you did make up another scrapbook starting where the first one left off. I still have that first one right here with me and enjoy looking through it very much. It is very nice and brings back a lot of memories when I read it. You should have quite a bit of material for a new one.

It's time to close and go to bed now so goodnight my Sweet. I'll meet you in our special dream tonight and will make very torrid love to you. The thinking about it is very nice but nothing compared to what the doing it will be. Goodnight my Darling

I love you more than
Anything in the world
And am yours

Forever,

Freddie

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Monday Morning

Good Morning My Beautiful,

Just thought I'd append a short note to this letter and also slip in some more Jap invasion money which I got a little more for the scrapbook. The reyeering [sic] note is Dutch East Indies stuff while the rest was for use in the Philippines. There's also some Jap money floating around. If I get hold of any I'll send it along too.

Yesterday I met a fellow who was on the ship with me when I came overseas. I don't know his name but I recognized him. He was on the staff of that ships paper which I did sketches for. It seems funny to just run into people you know on the Street. I should meet more people that I know because this place is the Times Square of the Pacific.

This time I really must close and get ready for work Sweetheart. Goodbye again my lovely Darling. I am so glad and proud that you love me and I shall love you

Always

Freddie