

Thursday –

Dearest Dolores;

Another day, and another heartening day has passed and the war is a long day nearer the end. I've just been told the Mr. Himmler is now giving order in Germany and that Hitler has relinquished a lot of his power. It looks as if maybe everything is starting to pop now. In Japan Jojo has been displaced and a couple of pro-American – relatively speaking – men have replaced him. God, Sweetheart, maybe the war will end soon. The announcement just came over the radio that a group of German officers had tried unsuccessfully to assassinate Hitler. Too bad but maybe it will point the way for future efforts in that direction. I want to be with you and for that the war must end so anything that hastens the end is of great interest to me. I love you!!! Wouldn't it be just wonderful if the war did end soon Darling?

It's so lonely out here alone. You should be here with me. There's a beautiful sky tonite. [sic] It is just dusk now and the sky is still light blue in the west litening [sic] down to orange near the bottom, and there

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is just one star shining. It's beautiful really and it would be so nice to be here enjoying it with you.

Bob has a copy of the Bill of Rights for G.I.'s and I examined it quite carefully. I found that the 25 yr [sic] old ruling applied to men who had been taken into the Army after they were 25 so that does not exclude me. The "Bill" also says that the gov't will pay for the tuition and books, supplies, etc. up to \$500 with \$75 a month for anyone with dependents – that will be me. They will send me for as long a length of time as I spent in the Army up to three years any level of learning – the only modifying factor is the grades. I'm quite sure I can handle that end of the whole thing quite ably. It all sounds rather good.

Our hike today was very pleasant. It was only nine miles long and we had four hours to do it in. About two miles per hour. Very tough marching. It was, in fact, one of the roughest hikes for me because I lost the heel on one of my shoes the other day and had to hike that way.

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After a while it started to make a sore spot but I lived thru [sic] it all.

This afternoon we just laid around our tents. I got a couple of letters written. One of them was to Foster. I told him not to worry about Ginny's cold and explained to him the cause as Swifty once explained it to me. Poor Foster, he has a lot to learn. Who? Me? I've got nothing to learn have I?

Again I went to the movies and I saw a good show. It was a musical comedy called "Step Lively" which was a rehash of the play "Room Service". There were a lot of gags in it. Frank Sinatra was in it and all the boys in the audience put on a very reasonable facsimile of the girls on the radio broadcasts. It was quite funny.

So I'm going to crash the news eh, Darling? I'm sort of glad because I want everyone to know that we are engaged. I like the idea very much. No fooling. It sounds wonderful, but how much more wonderful it will be to read our wedding

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notices, providing we take time out for this after we're married. I'm afraid we'll be too absorbed in one another to think of much of anything except ourselves. What beautiful thoughts. I would like a few extra copies of the engagement notice tho [sic] Darling. I want Mom and Dad to have one, and would like some for Foster, Swifty, and one for myself. I hope you can get a picture of yourself from the proofs without too much trouble. I'm quite anxious to see the notice.

It's quite dark out now and all the stars are out. It's just such a nite [sic] as I could hope for for our honeymoon.

I'll close this letter now Sweet and get ready to go to bed to try to get a little sleep and dream of you.

All my Love and a Great Big Hug

And Kiss

Freddie