

Germany
22 April 1945.

Florence, Sweetheart:

It has been such a great thrill and joy to read and re-read the dozen letters I received from you yesterday that I can hardly find words to express my feelings. All your letters were harbingers of good and cheerful tidings in addition to expression of our mutual and deep love. It's true this separation is unbearable to both of us, but think of the reunion. It gives heart and courage, plenty of joy and happiness in the future, and the years to come will surely be filled to the brim with eventful times and love. I need hardly add that I miss you and Jim ever so much, and that I look forward most impatiently to a speedy return to our little place. The time is running out, my dearest, it will end soon, and then the wait until I return home. Until then be resolute, of good cheer, take good care of my only beloved and our little boy. How I love you both.

There was no mail call to-day, but I'm still reading and replying to yesterday's beautiful harvest. Bless you for that one. I wrote you a long letter last night, but in the event this one arrives before that, please note that I disclosed in the previous letter my presence in Germany, and a new APO number. I'm just as well situated here as I was in Belgium from a military standpoint so don't be creating any wild imaginations in your mind.

Now getting back to some of the items discussed in your various letters. I did receive all the funds you sent me, but as already advised I did not need it so I sent it back to you in two money orders, one of which you have already acknowledged. Please let me know when the other arrives. I have too much money now, and on the pay day only a week off I'll probably send you another money order next week. Your list of perfumes and powder checks with mine, and as I noted yesterday I'll endeavor to obtain several bottles of Churchilla Royal, but it may be difficult since I am no longer in Belgium. Hope you like some of the others as well, or nearly as well as this one.

1857

I have just sent a great deal of money to you
and hope to see you in the future. I have
been very busy lately and have not had
time to write to you. I have been
thinking of you very much and hope
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The policy I had in mind was the 7200 term insurance, but after thinking it over since then, and, if nothing has been ^{done}, I suggest you leave it as is. I'll attend to this matter when I return. In the meantime I'll decide what and how I want to set up all my insurance, in addition to the army policy. Advise if anything was consummated prior to receiving this, and if not please pay premium when due on all my insurance policies. If you have had the stock certificate registered in our names jointly I suggest you send me a stock power of attorney for my signature. Without this it will be impossible to sell it in the future. If not already registered then I suggest you put it in your own name. Let me know what you do about this.

I am delighted to know that all these packages arrived in good shape. There are at least three more bundles en route, two containing toys for Jimmy, and the other some novelties for you. In addition yesterday I sent you the hand-carved mirror Frank had made for you. He constructed a special box for shipment and I packed paper around it. You have probably noted by now that all my bundles to you are well packed, and that little items and tokens are always wrapped in paper. Always check the contents of each package closely. One of the other packages contains a 3 coin brass and an empty machine gun shell. The metal bracelet with your name inscribed has a most interesting story attached, and I know you'll be fascinated by it. At present I'm making some brass ash trays out of artillery shells. I intend using the shell you'll receive in the center of one of these trays, and those little brass statues of "Manikin Pie" in the others. You have one statue, and I have 2 more here. Also picked up a German helmet and will send all this junk home shortly. I am afraid to ask you if you have any more room at home, so throw out any thing you don't want except my stock of liquor.

Reading then the 2 Sunday Times I received yesterday I noticed the very feminine clothes the women are wearing these days. Sure hope you too have purchased one of these stylish jigger coats. It's a treat to be able to look at some American clothes, styled on American manikins, for Americans and by Americans. I sure as hell am tired of looking at these poor substitutes for feminine

palchitude. It is easy to picture you wearing these lovely things and I hope you are not neglecting your wardrobe, or Jim's either. We certainly don't want our friends and neighbors, and the Neft Board to think that your standard of living has been altered.

I'll take good care of the camera when it arrives, and I'm sure there'll be plenty of opportunity to take some interesting and unusual pictures. I have already taken several rolls on someone's camera but can't have them developed around here. Also try to send some 116 films. The decorating magazines have not arrived yet but they'll surely get here. I'll try to mail them to Frank.

You and Jim seem to have had a grand holiday over Easter, and I sure hope you locate a place for the summer. It would be a pity to have to smelter all summer while waiting for me to return. You and Jim need the outdoors and I'm hopeful your efforts to get a place will prove successful soon. Jim must be gnawing nicely these days, and I long to see a snap of him taken on a recent date. Am glad you are going to take some morning pictures of him, as this will be the only link I'll have between the last time I saw him and when I see you again. I hope you are both in perfect health and fine spirits, and that his rash has more or less cleared up. Those little stories you relate about him are fairly excellent stimulants, and I eat them up by the eye-fulls. Glad Aaron is improving but he'll probably be crippled for a long time. Stella's attitude leads me to believe there is something amiss there. With a world full of all kinds of men she sure picked a prize package.

Stay well, my beloved darling, keep smiling. Kiss Jim for me, and have him kiss our pretty Gail for his daddy. My very best to everyone and kiss the folks for me. With all my love and affection, you find me
As ever
George

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STOFF 42050100
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40 POSTMASTER
W YORK.

AIR-MAIL



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MRS. FLORENCE STOFF
3021 AVENUE I
BROOKLYN 10
NEW YORK



