Monday, March 26, 1945
Somewhere in Belgium.

Eleanor, sweetheart:

Happy birthday to the sweetest girl in the world, and my only pin-up girl. This is the second consecutive birthday I am in the army, and we have not been able to celebrate your natal day as it will be in the future, but have no fear I am not forgetting about them. I will adjust that matter and in no uncertain manner. I truly hope that all went well on this day for you, and my thoughts have been about you every free moment during the day. Now as I write this my mind keeps thinking about days gone by, when my daily avowal of my love for you was always echoed by yourself. Nowadays we must use the medium of the written word, but it's just the same, my beloved. I love and adore you, and no matter how I have to tell it to you it will remain always the same.

Enclosed herewith is a postal money order for $40.00 which you please apply to anything that will please your little heart. As a matter of fact part of this money represents some of the funds you have been sending me for the past month. I have plenty of money on hand, and will continue sending you any surplus monthly which I have, so please stop sending me any more money until I ask for some.

Yesterday's mail brought your letters dated Feb 21, March 7, 13, and 14th, and V-Mail dated March 12th. After a few days brought it sure was good to get all this mail from you. Also received the bundle you sent for Eleanor. To-day's mail brought no letters but I did get the package you sent for your aunt. Naturally I wrote her a little "thank-you" note, but I do hope she does not become one of my correspondents. I have too many now, and it is difficult writing all of them the same stuff.

While I am on the subject of mail and packages let me tell you what is still en route to you. A package containing a pair of shoes to Jenny; a bowling set; a bundle containing several Canaal Masonic insignias; two packages of perfume and jewelry sent from Paris; and a bundle I shipped you registered first class from Belgium several weeks ago. The monetary value is small, but each package contains items which will always be reminiscent of my being overseas, oh yes. I almost forgot, two packages of toys for Jim.

Now as I reread the last paragraph it seems as though I am sending you more bundles than you are sending me, but rest assured you have done a grand job. However, the food situation is improving here in Belgium, what with things growing and ships bringing stuff in. I suggest that after you have completed the last of my request letters that you send no more bundles until I advise again. Please acknowledge this so I know you understand about these packages.

With reference to the insurance policy I wrote about. I think it is the 2000.- policy I want to cancel. Please check to be sure it is the one issued by the bank as "TERM INSURANCE". Since I intend to continue my army insurance after discharge there is no point in keeping a policy with a war risk rider. I do want to maintain the other bank policy despite its rider clause. Be sure to have the bank verify this before you do anything. Advise when you have completed this deal. Prices' switch from McKesson into the new stock should prove profitable in due time. We didn't make too much on McKesson but did get about 8% on our money for about 2 years. Our other holdings show more handsome profits, and perhaps will make enough to buy a home before I get home.

Another thing I am anxious to learn about is my notary public renewal. Did the Secretary of State's office ever reply to your letter about my status? Have you done anything about taking the car off blocks? It begins to appear to me that you will have no more luck in locating a place this year than you had last year, and the year before. Of course last year your problem was solved in a manner I'd give anything to re-live this year. Eleven wonderful weeks together with you and Jim in St. Paul. I'll never forget that summer but be sure that our future summers will be just as heavenly as that one was. I am more certain than ever that we shall have to purchase our own summer place to please us and ours. Patience, my darling, patience. All will come in due time. I know its a trying period but inevitably all things come to an end and even this unholy operation must come to a finish. That's when our lives begin again.

Yesterday also brought the February 18th edition of the Times. I got a kick out of reading the ads and

editorials. The Belgians cannot comprehend how we get so much fofa to read in one day, but they too seem enjoy the newspaper. Thank you so much for having it sent. Have received no copies of the Reader's Digest yet, but I suppose even that will come thru in time.

Bob wrote that Fran and he were overwhelmed with surprise and joy upon receipt of that souvenir pin. I am wondering how they will receive the bottle of perfume gift. All seems to be under control with him, but I fear he will never be any more happy in the army than his select brother. I have often wondered how Thelma would react to the loss of Jel when the first shock wore off. It's really a tough break, and I sure hope they do something about it. Perhaps one of these days even you and I will get the chance to increase our breed - but in the meantime I believe you have a full time job on your hands.

All the boys and officers you inquired about are still with the outfit and they send their best to you. We are all very well, and just as confident as you are. The headache I wrote about the other day cleared up okay, and is really one of the few I have experienced in many months. Chow is pretty good, plenty of butter and meat, and much less tinned meats than when we first arrived overseas. As a matter of fact living at headquarters is a pretty good break, as I eat at a regular mess out of crockery plates. This is much better than the average soldier gets over here.

Your stories about Jim warm the cockles of me heart, but with you as his mother I hardly expected any less. He must be a source of much pleasure and worry to you, but as long as he keeps you pre-occupied during this lonesome period I guess we can ask no more. Did Joe ever forward the snapshots he took during my visit to Paris?

This Jim and the folks for me, stay well, keep smiling, and give my best to everyone. I love and adore you as much as ever, and to say that I am not homesick or yearning for you would be telling a lie; but I will stick it out, and I know you can take it too. Once again, "Happy Birthday," and all my love,

As ever

George

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VIA AIR MAIL

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CENSOR

Thank you Okay
1st Lt