

-2-
1 February 1944

Tuesday

Dearest Shirley,

I wrote two V Mail letters last night and thought that I would write a letter to go by regular mail today so that we may determine which is the faster. I'll try to write a short letter and and a V Mail letter each day for a few days and you keep track of when you receive the two letters written on the same day. Then let me know which gets there faster. I will write a letter to Mother & Dad today on V Mail stationery and you can compare the travelling time on it with this letter.

If they continue to feed us like they have the last two days, I am sure that I will gain back what little weight I may have lost on the ship
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1 February 1947

together with a good many extra pounds. The food may not be any better than what we got regularly in the states but it is prepared so much better and the meals are prepared with a good deal of concern for maintaining a balanced diet. I am not the only one that is bragging on the food as we all like it and hope that it continues.

There is certainly no food wasted over here and one has to eat every bite he takes. However, noone would want to throw away such good food and we help ourselves to as little or as much as we want of everything.

We really expected worse food over here than what we got in the states, but actually it is better.

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So far I have not seen much of England other than what we could see on the way to camp, but it does not seem different from the States in the extreme. It is an accumulation of little things that make it different.

One of the first things that one notices is the short green grass and green moss. Apparently there is enough moisture all the time to keep the ground damp and it stays cloudy enough of the time to prevent the soil becoming dry.

The houses and buildings look as old as the country. The streets are about as wide as alleys and the alleys are only passage ways. Bicycles fly everywhere down the narrow streets and as yet everyone seems
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to be driving or riding on the wrong side of the road. At first I thought I was about to witness a head-on collision but everything turned out ok.

The English money is all new to us and it will take us a little time to get used to it, but we are told that their monetary system is easy to catch on to. We will be paid in English money and buy things at the PX with English money, even. The old dollar is a thing of the past for us until we return to the States.

It is rather cold here today and has been cold at night. We keep a good fire going in our tent, though, and don't notice the cold much.

If we stay in England long enough I plan to arrange a
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meeting with John Maglio in some town that we can both get to. I wrote to him today and hope to hear from him in a week or so if he is still here.

Well, darling, as time goes on, I will write more news and try to tell you more of what I learn about England.

I turned in a telegraph message today to be sent to you telling you that I am well and thinking of you. You are never out of my thoughts. I pray for you, haura, and the folks regularly.

Distance can never really separate us.

I love you so much darling and am looking forward eagerly to the day when we can be together again. Take good care of yourself and haura and give me all the news.

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I will especially be interested in how Laura is doing and what she is doing. I send her a sweet little kiss which you can deliver for me and tell her come from daddy over in cheerie old England. Cheerio for now. I will

Your loving husband,
Cliff

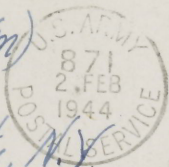
P.S.

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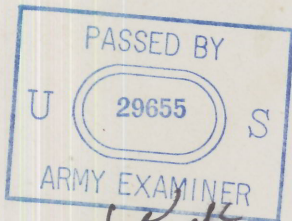
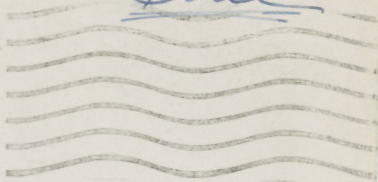
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