

18 APRIL 1944

reading two sweet letters from you Tuesday morn.

My Sweetheart, oh they answered my thoughts.

I was just lying on my bed during the few spare moments we have at noon after chow, and was thinking of you and Laura. I was reliving many happy moments we had together and was particularly thinking of how I used to rest on the studio couch in our little home after eating one of your delicious lunches. Then you would come in as soon as you cleared the dishes off the table and I would rest my head in your lap while you played with my hair. You used to braid my hair and tie it in knots as we chatted peacefully and lovingly. Those moments will always live in my memory as among the sweetest in my life.

As I was lying on my bed and dreaming of you the mail clerk called out "Mail Call" & I was up in a flash. Soon I was
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18 APRIL 1944

reading two sweet letters from you - it seemed almost as though they answered my thoughts. One was a V-Mail of April 3rd and one an Air Mail of April 9th (Easter Sunday). This Air Mail letter was postmarked the 10th so it came across in only 8 days. These were the first letters from you in several days & although there was quite a gap in your letters there surely must be some more coming to fill in the gap, although you say you missed writing a few days while Mother C. was ill. I hope that she is fully recovered now.

Honey, you said that it was three years ago the third of April that we announced our engagement. Maybe I am wrong but I thought that it was three years on the fourth. Regardless of the date I would do it all over again today, tomorrow, or the next day if I could and would enjoy
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and treasure each moment just as dearly as I treasure every moment in my memory that we spent together. I know that I could not tell you how much I loved you then, and now I find it much harder to find words to express my feelings even in a small way. I love you more and more each day, each month, and each year until I now fully realize that I live only for you and Laura. I live only to be with you again so that I may try in my humble and awkward way to show you how much I love you and adore you, and to do my utmost to provide you and Laura with the home, necessities, and luxuries that you want & rightly deserve.

If I had it all to do over again I know that I would do more to make you happy and I would treasure every moment that I could be with you. Even little seemingly unimportant things
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would now be more sweet and lovely. I miss so many little kindnesses and little characteristics of yours that only I know. In fact, I would feel very jealous of anyone other than Laura who might even notice any of the characteristics in you that I know as setting you entirely apart from anyone else in the world.

Darling, you always were just a little more than an average sweetheart; you were more than a perfect wife; and you were an ideal mother. You entirely amazed me with your wonderful accomplishments as a wife, housekeeper, cook, and home economist, and at the same time you remained a perfect sweetheart. Then when Laura came, again I was to be amazed and even more amazed at your ability to care for Laura in addition to all your previous duties and only grow more lovely, more wonderful, and more beautiful. Even
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after becoming both a mother and a housewife
you never stopped being my sweetheart. No
wonder I love you three times as much
as I did when we were married.

I love you more than anything else in the
world, Shirley, and someday in the not too
distant future I hope to show you in a small
way how much I do love you. Words are so
inadequate to express my love of you, but,
darling always remember that I love you
and am with you in thought even though we
may be separated by a country or an ocean.

Take good care of yourself and of that
precious blue-eyed daughter of ours. I am trusting
in you, darling. Think of me as I do of you
and we need have no worry whatsoever of
our future together - we will resume our
happy life together with more consideration
of each other and will be even happier
(next sheet)

than we were before. We will grow up with Laura and have a gay time together.

I will be awaiting the Easter Snapshots with the impatience of a kid waiting for vacation from school. And, darling, do your best to get me the large pictures that I have been requesting.

My darling, I hope this letter is received in the same mood as which I am writing it and hope that in a small way it conveys to you the love that I have for you. It is so hard for me to write good letters even, let alone love letters, when I am so restricted in what I can write and am conscious that one of our unit officers is going to read every word and remember everything I write. I don't mind telling anyone that I love my wife, but we have already found that in our small unit

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our officers do discuss our letters and do form opinions of us from the letters we write home. Well, it is our own private love affair, so I am using the blue envelope to escape unit censorship. The letter will be censored by the base censor, who is entirely unknown & some distance away, but it will remain more personal than a letter I may write & send through our regular censor.

We are now allowed only two blue envelopes each month, but I certainly intend to use them.

Goodbye now my darling wife and precious little daughter. Daddy sends you both all his love and promises to remain yours forever.

Your adoring husband
& daddy,
Cliff

P.S.

WRITE SOON & OFTEN. *ca*

BLUE ENVELOPE MAIL
ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

This envelope must not be used for money or valuables; cannot be registered and will not be censored by unit censors but by the Chief Base Censor. A SEPARATE ENVELOPE MUST BE USED FOR EACH LETTER.



ADDRESS

Mrs. C. L. GALLUP
114 MICHIGAN STREET
REDLANDS, CALIF.

I certify that the enclosed letter was written by me, refers only to personal or family matters, and does not refer to military or other matters forbidden by censorship regulations.

Pfc. Clifton L. Gallup

(Grade)

(Name)

39570918

(Serial Number)

38th MRU(M), HQ IX CORPS

(Organisation)

APO No. 340 % Postmaster NEW YORK, N.Y.