

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

12 August 1944

Saturday

Dearest Shirley,

Note the new address heading on my letter! We just got a bulletin stating that we can now put "Somewhere in France" on our letters. Until now we have not been permitted to mention this fact even though we have been over here some time. You can readily tell about when I was on the move in England & on the boat crossing the channel because I wrote no letters during that time.

Now you will have a better explanation of why my letters have been less frequent and sometimes quite short. First we could not write while moving, and second we are far busier when we are settled in one spot trying to catch up ~~on~~ the work again.

We had a nice trip across the channel. Since we have been in France we have had some very good weather. I feel much better here in a dryer atmosphere than that in England. I breathe more easily and seem to have more energy.

We live in pup tents, as I told you before. We eat a lot of the famous Army canned & packaged rations, "C", "K", & "D". On some occasions we have been able to go to a mobile shower unit nearby to take a good warm shower. On one occasion we bathed and went swimming in a pool formed by a creek. But more frequently than not we bathe by using our good old G.I. helmet and washcloth.

(next sheet)

I have seen some very beautiful country here. I don't know where I have seen any countryside similar but it is as beautiful as any I have seen. Some day I'll tell you all about the places I have seen, honey.

We are busy now, and have been extra busy ever since we landed in France. Then due to the fact that we are a mobile unit and do not stay put in any one place long, we have to work all the harder to catch up when we are settled for a few days.

You will remember that a long time ago I promised you that I would write regularly & often except for two things that ~~will~~ necessitate that I do miss writing for a few days — work or moving. The promise still holds good, honey. Unless we are working long hours or moving I will ^{write} regularly and quite often. I will write whenever possible, darling.

It is nice and warm here now even though it is now after nine o'clock, and it was very hot the last few days during the day.

Honey, now that it can be told that we are in France and not in England I can send the pictures I have of some scenic views of Bristol. I will send them in a few days. It can also be told that I visited Bristol, Cheltenham, Marlborough, Swindon, Salisbury, and a number of other cities & towns in England.

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I'll tell you more of the things I saw in England from time to time before I forget about the places I saw. Of course I will not be able to tell you much about the places I see in France so as I think of things I wanted to tell you about England I will do so. One thing, I am glad to be gone from England and have no desire to go there again. I like it better here than England.

Last night after I wrote to you I went to see a movie. We had a G.I. movie right here in the area outdoors. We have had several outdoor shows since we have been in France and several movies but the one last night was the first one I was able to see. The screen is set up quite similarly to the arrangement of our outdoor theaters at home and is really quite satisfactory. A show always is good entertainment for all of us, too.

The show we saw last night was especially good. It was "Casanova Q. Brown" with ~~Barbara~~ Gary Cooper & Theresa Wright. If you get a chance to see the show you should see it. I know that you would enjoy it a lot. They have a very sweet looking little baby in the picture, too.

Well, darling, that about brings us up to date on the news. Mail is still coming through ok but arrives in bigger bundles and less often. Right now I have had no letter from you since the 9th, but received two letters that day.

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I hope that what few letters I have written to you since arriving in France have reached you as regularly as they might have if mailed in England.

Write regularly & often, darling. I wait anxiously for the mail each day hoping that it may bring me another enjoyable letter from you. You cannot know how much I treasure your letters.

Well, sweetheart, it is getting dark out here and I believe that I had better get my bed made up and get ready for bed. I love you, Shirley, and want you to always remember that. No matter how far away from you and Laura I may go there is a part of me that is with you always.

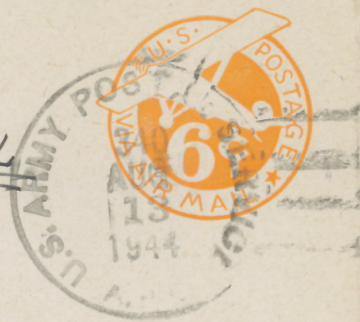
Good night, my blue-eyed darlings. Pleasant dreams.

Your loving husbands
Daddy,
Cliff

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VIA

AIR MAIL



Somewhere
in France.

PASSED BY
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