

AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Oahu T. H.
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My dearest:

Wrote you a letter last night, but decided to tear it up. No.. darling, not about "us"... guess I was what the overseas soldier graphically describes as "pi--ed off" meaning fed up, disgusted, not getting what you want, left behind, and a variety of other things. Before the evening was over one of the boys who is going home in a few days came out to the house with a bottle of Old Grandad... so I crawled in that and forgot my troubles.

In the light of another day they are minor. Your letter of Dec. 8th came in yesterday... arriving in 12 days. Whee.. was that something. The thing that got me down, really, was lack of information. I read and re-read your letters until they are about worn out and then can't figure out what is going on.

First: What colleges are you considering? Where? You say you have sent for "several catalogs" which gives me no idea.

Second: If you are determined to get teacher's certificate why not one of the good normal schools.. such as Mt. Pleasant?

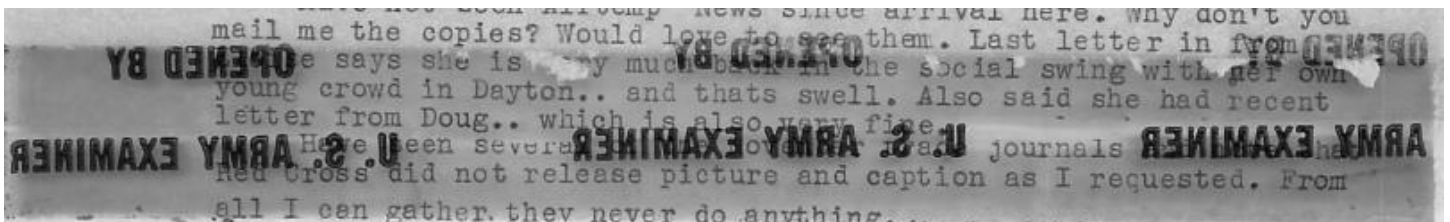
Third: Who are you trying to deal with on re-financing the house. Capitol Savings and Loan will never give you a mortgage as long as they hold a juicy 6% contract. Would be better to see some good bank or insurance company and get an appraisal before you talk to Cap.Sav. and Loan.. but apparently you have already talked to them, which puts you squarely in the middle. Did you see Geo. Dixon about the contract? Does it have clause saying it can be paid up at any time at your option?

Fourth: When did Redeker send me a check? For how much money ? For what stories?

Fifth: and most important. Have you received any ARC checks? What date? What amount? The only way to get action out here on any little thing is to resign... and plenty of guys

do that.. they get so sore over the endless delays in money, etc. I have been giving them hell here about it, but it apparently does no good at all. Such an outfit.

When I put the Xmas package in the mail today it left me with about 60 cents, which will buy dinner tonite. I tackled the FD here (new one) for increase in sub-advance, but he refuses to put in for it for me. "Too much paper work.. etc. " Also would take it 10 days or longer to come through.. and my need is now.. He said he would (magnanimously) give me half of my quarters allowance for Dec. if he could get permission to do so from Area Office. What a guy... but that's the reason he is an FD... sticks strictly to policy and never gets out of line on any little thing. Heaven forbid that I shall ever reach that exalted status in Red Cross, even tho FDs get \$25 bucks more a month.



[Have not seen Airtemp News since arrival here. Why don't you mail me the copies? Would love to see them. Last letter in from Eloise says she is very much back in the social swing with her own young crowd in Dayton.. that that's swell. Also said she had recent letter from Doug.. which is also very fine.

Have seen several of the November trade journals and noted that Red Cross did not release picture and caption as I had requested. From all I can gather they never do anything.]** all covered by censor tape, but visible....

Another thing.. please tell me the date that my letters reach you and give the date written.. so I can be sure you get them all. Have written you Dec.4--6--11--14 and this one 21. (Migosh.. has a week gone by, or did I forget to put one in my notebook?)... no there was another one Dec. 18. Also let me know if my letters from here are being badly cut up by censor.

Glad Barbie is taking voice lessons.. but wish she could continue her piano...if she could hear Joe Rubenson's daughter play Chopin it would give her courage.

We are entering the Christmas season. Right now they are playing Xmas music over one of the radios or speaker systems near here. Our doors and windows stand wide open all the time and we can hear everything. I have to work Sunday and Christmas Day, but will manage to get in town for at least the tail end of Jean's party.. and try and get back the next night (Xmas) for dinner at Rubenson's... On Christmas eve Stan Andersen and four of our gals are going to "work" the back area stations.. spending time with the GIs... I would love to do that... but don't want to miss Jean's shindig.

By the way.. you asked about the accordion. Like everything else Red Cross promises it failed to materialize... and there just ain't no such animals here. The boys coming back from down under tell me they go to hell in a hurry because of the heat and dampness, so guess its just as well. Cameras and typewriter cases also fall apart.

Night before last I took two of the gals down to the NATS station.. which is just like a huge airport. The gals worked the canteen on the swing shift... 5 to 9 while I strolled around and looked the place over. Certainly romantic to hear planes called for Guam, Siapan, Eniwetok and other far away places. They run on regular schedules, like a big airline.

Also planes to Calif. every few minutes.. lucky guys aboard. Some of the boys coming in looked pretty rugged. The gals meet them with coffee, donuts, pineapple, cookies, and cokes while they are waiting for their baggage to clear customs. You should see them take whiskey and cigarettes away from people going to the mainland.. but noticed that those going down under fared better. Had dinner in the Navy officer's mess... and it was excellent.

Don't know whether I told you or not.. We eat at noon at a Quartermaster Mess where they have a school for cooks and bakers, and the food is excellent... price 28 cents including tip. The pastry is especially fine, but I have not started getting fat yet. Its hard to get used to having "dinner" at noon.. but that's the army.

Last night we ate off the pantry shelf.. fried Prem (not bad), kidney beans, butter and cheese spread.. and GI beer. You would not like the latter... its even weaker than Sunday beer we always got at Rattlesnake Pete's. You can drink 7 gallons of it

and nothing happens except run to the latrine. Which reminds me of another funny thing.. latrines are marked, "officers only" ..believe me this is an officer's war.

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