



AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Okinawa

My darling:

Your letter written last Wednesday in tonight. Oh darling - just a week - Sure is wonderful to get mail thru like that - even when I have to hitch hike miles over dusty rough roads to pick it up. Wish I had one of Barbie's hurrican (sic) lamps - my candles on the table are flickering.

Am dead tired - today we moved! We were located in a valley near one of the generals & knew the area was to be bulldozed - leveled - to make more space. At the last moment found that very little space would be left for us so the Colonel (Dumbrowsky) went out and arrranged for another site. So we struck all our tents - 5 of them - packed everything - moved in 4 truck loads & are now partially set up again. We have squad tent set up for office - 34 ft. long & 20 ft. wide. It



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provides desk space for Dumbrowsky, myself, two supervisors and our four soldiers - who all work for me - so we can work without getting in each others laps. Hope I never have to put up a big tent again with only four men to help - but it only blew down once during the process. I understand it can't be done without 8 men - Well - it can - So back of the big tent, in our little valley we have four individual wall tents - known as 2-man tents - which are swell for one. So for the moment, have a little place of my own.

Today was the hottest one so far - the sun here is terrific - like Oahu - we left a metal chain out & it was too hot to sit on - our cans of drinking water too hot to touch - & the warm, almost hot beverage inside is insipid. It has an awful load of chlorine.

Soon our phones will be in again - tomorrow I hope we may, in a few days get electric lights again. Am sitting here drinking, of all things a can of Budweiser. Somehow the Col. got hold of some and does it taste good, even tho warm.



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Your last letter answered my questions about meat in the States. We get plenty of course - but no fresh food of any kind. Hope your situation clears up soon as I agree that a steak, or a pork chop would taste very good indeed. If we could import beef from South America - we would have plenty & at the same time build a market for everything from cars to cuff buttons - but no, the western Senators must have it their way. I am getting so I hate special privilege with a passion.

Father seems happy to feel that Okinawa will be a safe place when all the Japs are licked. Glad he don't know the half of it - we are too close to other coasts to have it quiet for a while. But there is a bright moon - tiny one, and millions of stars tonight - & no raid yet - every few minutes the fighters roar over - they are doing some job, these fly-boys. Some day I will tell you some stories - plenty.

Damn it child - that money was for you - for new clothes - and not for steps and cleaning furnace. Here I was so proud - first article sold "on acceptance" from a magazine, I wanted to frame the check - but wanted more for you to have something nice for yourself. You know I



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can't buy anything here. Have also paid \$100 on my ARC account - standing since last October or Nov. - so am almost square with them.

Will write Henry Kaye dear - as you suggested - but not tonight. I'm too weary. First one thing & then another - a guy going back to the states gave me an old pillow! What luxury - but now my forehead & shoulders is covered with flea bites. - oh god! Please send me a flashlight - I have batteries & bulbs - but mine is kagwire & how I need it.

Told you I had a wild letter from Lyd - will have to send it on to you - as could not possibly explain it - but better have your correct office address first - it might go astray, if you follow me. If Midge is still mooning about Barb I am not shedding any tears - either way! But poor Grandma.

By the way, aunt Hazel writes to me very regularly & wish you would call her. They now live way out Trinity - have never seen their



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little house. She does not say how many of Mary's brood she now has under foot. I wonder.

ARC is in something of a mess - but it does not involve me in any way - thank heaven. General key men have resigned and others are about to. I hate this communications work as you can imagine, but would rather be doing it than be involved in the petty bickering that goes on at headquarters. Oh me - oh my!

My candles are burning low. They have fat tallow rivers down their sides. Have never heard from Ell Bennett about the proposed publication, but the old guy has so many interests from magazines to apple juice - suppose he is busy. Have you ever received any money from Rideker? For what stories? If any - last check I got was late December. Is Tauheueck in Army yet? Has Dale gone? (stains on paper, marked BEER!)

Wish I could hold you close tonight - but I can't. These army cots are very narrow, but we could manage - no doubt. Did I tell you I have



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*one pure white U.S.N. blanket - and it's big enough to wrap you up - too.
Sometimes I wonder if the game is worth the candle - but some one has to
do this damn job - and we will soon be on the downhill stretch - Goodnight
my precious - and a kiss for every square inch of you - Oh my darling -
how I want you - and no one but you - tonight -*

Your own

Henry

Henry

*How did the Detroit News get that damn picture - from you or Red
Cross?*