



AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Okinawa.
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My darling:

Am tired as hell, after another battle with Gibson this morning but I won again, so can afford to be tired. This morning, early, I took all the accumulated wires (225 pages typed) over and left them on his desk with a note saying "We do not have personnel to handle this stuff.

He called up and called me everything he could think of over the phone.. juvenile, childish, spoiled, etc. BUT by the middle of this afternoon I had three extra females who are hospital secretaries and good typists, and one GI who can type after a fashion. Four more people.. count em, four more and I understand he is sending over two more soldiers.. we are now handling average of 600 messages per day and as my trained staff have been going home on points they have not been replaced. I just hope I can keep the help long enough to get the mess really unraveled.

Jean Ludins is waiting around for orders to go home and in the meantime he has taken over the message run on the northern end of the Island.. up to Nago and over to Ginusa, if you have a map. The GI who was doing it has wrecked four vehicles in as many weeks and failed to deliver about half the stuff, after we worked so hard on it.

There is really nothing new since I wrote you yesterday. No word from Manila on my resignation.. they will no doubt take a month or so to make up their minds. the way ARC does things.

Your beautiful letter in last night.. saying you thought the Texas trip would be too expensive etc. Darling, darling you are so vague. I have asked you several times if you had any

money. With prices in the States what they are I can understand it if you do not have anything in the kitty. But I would like to know somewhere near where we stand so I can make plans. One of these days, when I do get orders. I'll send you a letter to quit writing and the next you hear will be from the West Coast or Honolulu. I can phone you from Honolulu if I have the money (\$18.00) which I never did have when I was there before. My mess bill will be about 120 bucks, will have to pay for the pistol that was stolen, and that will about clean me out when I leave here. But I would still like to know if we could afford a week together in the south as I know YOU would love it. For me, HOME is going to look so damn good.. but it's very damn seldom that we could have a trip like that with ARC paying at least part of the expense. Find out what it would cost for round trip fare to New Orleans or San Antonio then figure 5 bucks per day for meals and room and that's what it would cost.. have you looked into that?

Also, when you write to me from now on send a COPY of your letter to ME at this address W.H. Knowlton, American Red Cross, POA Area Office, APO 958, Honolulu.

Then I can pick the copies up when I get there as they are extremely slow about forwarding military mail,. particularly now. Also APO 357 will soon be disbanded as Tenth Army is being deactivated very rapidly. But this way I will have some idea what cooks.

Also, on a sudden change of plans you can CABLE me at same address in Honolulu. Mark Honolulu mail "hold for arrival" or they will send it all out here.

If you don't get to Texas I will come straight to Detroit, but if you can make it to Texas I can take a little time to write some stuff for Redeker and we could count on at least \$100 bucks from that. Would also like to go home the "southern" route, thru to the southwest.

But if you are in Detroit I will be making a bee-line for there, copy or no copy.

Doubt if the Sylvester letter will do any good now, but would like to have it, to justify some of the pressure I have put on here.

Ludins is going to Tenth Army, so will close this and let him mail it.

All my love dearest

Henry