



AMERICAN RED CROSS

6 October, 1945

Okinawa

My Dearest:

Saturday afternoon and all the typewriters in my headquarters are clicking away - so there is none for me to use. Our volume of business grows and grows. All these poor lads trying to find some excuse to get home - and I don't blame them. I have doubled up everything - 2 in control dept. 2 typing incoming wires 2 outgoing 2 file clerks 2 drivers & still we are swamped. Oh me.

Night before last friends Zook, Ludins & I moved into the new Ascom 1 C.P. - We have a framed, floored pyramidal tent - well up off the ground - latrine & work room & shower handy. Best setup I have had since leaving Oahu in March.



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The new area is high on a series of hills, in center of the island, overlooking the China Sea - very beautiful layout. The mess hall is way up. The thing I notice most is that it is not so damp - we have been living almost at sea-level for months & the past two nights have been delightfully cool. Went to bed early & slept & slept - and am still sleepy. In the morning we pick up the three gals at the women's compound & drive the jeep-load up here. Our office Quonset at the new area should be ready shortly.

Still waiting for orders to Tokio - the X Army gang are training for stateside duty & don't give a damn - takes a week to get orders cut that used to take 2 hours. The GIs have a new expression -



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"Foobid" - translated means "---- you brother, I'm discharged."

Our GHQ-Pro has folded like the Arabs & gone on to Tokio - so my copy has to go to Manila via Courier plane. Gradually everything on this damn island is folding. No word from Manila on my resignation. Latest dirt is that Gibson is going home. New T.O. requires only one Asst Director here. So Dombrowsky will take over - I expect. Right now I don't give a damn what they do - I wanna go home!

Letter from Sam Summers in Japan - sez they have golf course & swimming pool - but no latrines or heating. Everyone here is wondering about winter. We hear it goes down to 35° & no one has stoves, or wool clothes.



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No mail past 4 days - sweating it out again. Our food gets steadily worse- no bread past 10 days (because no fats to make it) - all hard crackers & "C" rations and more "C" rations- We are getting so we hate to go to meals. Steady diet is weiner sausage (cut up), canned beef, salmon patties, canned sausage, spam. Did you ever taste chicken fried spam? with cracker crumbs and awful tasting grease? Lemme outa here!!

Suppose I shouldn't squawk, as I am alive & unharmed and have my health and at least a few of my nerves left - and there is nothing that can't be healed by 24 hours with YOU!



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Am trying to get 3 Okinawan "Jap fisherman" hats for the kids, but don't tell them as may not work out or may get lost in transit.

Things still happen - one of our men "burned out" yesterday - clothes, gear, tent & office records - all destroyed when a gasoline cook stove exploded. Fortunately, no one was hurt very badly.

Night before last we almost froze- so I asked "Weather" what the temperature was. He said "went down to 70° last night" - Migosh, honey, when I hit the coast in winter with this thinned out blood, I'll just freeze- No doubt you will have to keep me warm this winter, but I could stand a bit of that!



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Had pix taken yesterday with Jerry Graich, no Doolittle, as I said - he went home. Left his headquarters stranded out here.

Here it is Oct 6th, going Japanward next week and right back - then sweating out my orders for home- Pinch me darling, it doesn't seem possible. Should, with any luck, be on my way by the end of this month. But you know ARC so don't count on anything. Except that I love and adore you.

Your own,

Henry