

Dec. 7, 1944

To my darling wife:

Here, I'm at it again honey. Remember 3 years ago today dearest? Just think I was a civilian then & we had a \$400 furniture bill staring us in the face. But it didn't take us very long to clean it up did it honey? Honey, we get along so darn good. Mama, I'm in love with you. You mean the world & all to me dear. If I could only be with you right now. Honey I'm just no good without you. I have to have you by my side to be happy. Gee honey but I love you so.

Well honey, I'll tell you about my trip yesterday. Dear it was very enjoyable. We thumbed a ride up the road to this town. And darling you thought our tour of Missouri was pretty, you should see some of the country up the road. Dear it is very pretty. I wish you could have seen it with me. Maybe after the war we can make a trip over this way if we have the money. Honey there are the most beautiful rock formations. They have made very good use of it too. There are a lot of tunnels going thru those rocks. And dear even though it's December it is still green up there. Honey, I wish I could tell where this place is at, but I can't. It used to be a tourist spot in the summer & peace time. Well the best spot was a hotel where we had a nice steak, french fries & honey champagne. Remember dear that hotel we stayed in down in Missouri where you could look out & see the lake. Well here from the dining room you could look out on a river. Just about the same as down in Missouri. I'm sending you a picture taken from the rear of the hotel. Don't you think it is pretty. But honey, I just can't get over how pretty it was all the way up. And the only parts that had been hit by the war were the areas near the important bridges. We crossed the river in one spot on the steel beams. That was all that was left. Imagine if you fell, you'd be a goner because the river flows pretty darn fast. Yes honey, I wish you could have been with me yesterday. Your eyes would have jumped out of your head when you saw the pretty scenery. Honey, when I get back I'm taking you out & get some champagne. It tastes pretty good honey. In fact you'd like the taste of it.

Honey, I picked up the cutest souvenir for you. They are a couple of fisherman sitting with a fish pole in hand & there is a fish on the end of the line. I think they are made of brass or some other metal. They are pretty nice honey. Most of the stuff you buy around here are just sucker bait to the allies. But their fisherman are o.k. I sent them on to you today. So that makes 3 boxes you'll get sometime next year. Honey, I just enjoy getting stuff for you.

I know you like to get it. The only thing is wrapping paper. I went down to the PX warehouse today & a EM wrapped it for me.

Honey, it's almost X-mas now. Imagine that you & your dad will go out to one of your aunt's. I'll thinking of you honey. With my short haircut, dirty head & crossed rifles on one collar & a gold (maybe silver) bar on the other collar. Dear, that is your husband Jim over here in a foreign country away, far away, from my little honey. Honey, just say a short prayer for me that we'll be together on next X-mas. Honey, I just have to be home by then. I'm in love with you dear. Say hon, maybe it might be a good idea for you to go up to Eagle after X-mas. Imagine Ma will be pretty lonesome by then. Then you & her could both sweat it out together. Just don't worry too much honey, as long as I have your strong love & your picture in my pack I'll be o.k. Well dear, I guess maybe I'd better close for today. I don't have much paper left & it's hard to get so dear you'll have to be satisfied with 1 sheet today. So darling bye & honey remember always that I love you with all my heart & I'm always thinking of you. Tell Pop hello & pet Mitzi for me.

Your ever loving husband forever

Jim

P.S. Lots of kisses to you honey.