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The Flat.
Thursday. 31/5/45

Sweetheart,

Picked me, smuggled up
in dressing-gown & slippers Cos
it's still windy here. Peeked in
front of me is the snap of your
gang all resplendent in whites.
You do look nice! You're the ace
in the hat - you dope. Let me
tell you I didn't have to even
look for you, those pearly
whites just flashed their families
Smile & said "Here's your man".
Quite a smasheroo in your virgini-
whites, and Suntan.

So the Breach Candy
Snap is coming, & you're a
splendid physique as you?

Well let me tell you - if you
are losing weight, your head gets
no smaller!

But joking apart, honey, I hope
this loss of weight stops pretty
soon now. You're losing very
quickly - but I shan't worry
until you reach your pre-war
weight of 13 st. 8. I guess it's
the heat & I don't think it will
do you any harm to have less
flesh & weight to carry around in
that temperature. I was sorry
to read that your rations are
short. Gee whizz - you work
hard enough for the G.I.: you'd
think they'd have the decency to
feed you well. Makes me mad!

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I only hope you have the opportunity to stock up at the canteen. Do you buy fruit in the markets, & bring it back to the bungalow to be consumed during the week? Or would it attract too many unwelcome visitors - in the shape of insects etc.? I reckon we in England can thank our lucky stars that we only have to combat house-flies. - and even they don't come in flocks (or whatever the collective noun for flies is).

I was very sorry to read the fate of your old ship and messmates. You went through a good many tough corners with those lads didn't you sweet?

It's a tough war! And well
all of us be much older for it -
and, I hope much wiser.

I wonder what will happen to
take now that the European war
is over? Incidentally this demob.
question gets vaguer every day.
Somebody stands up in Parliament
everyday & revises what his
predecessor stated, until I for
one begin to doubt whether that
much-discussed plan will ever
be put into action. You seem
to have had the right angle when
you pooh-poohed it last year.

Still however the Far East war news
is pretty hot these days -
Chinese going ahead in China,

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Okinawa nearly cleared by the
Yanks, and Burma almost all in
British hands. What's more,
the Jap Premier himself has admitted
that the manufacturing parts of
Tokio - 51 sq. miles - have been
virtually reduced to ashes.

I'm sure they can't stand up
to much of that kind of destruction.
Doolittle expects it to be all over
in 6 months. You see honey
we'll have a holiday next May
in Bournemouth, and get
acquainted once more in the
Hofbr. What bliss!

Had two phone calls today
Sweet. Pat & Max are on 10 days

leave and I will most probably meet them at Cufley Towers on Sunday. Dux, as always, sends his best to the "pokers" and says he's going to write to you & complain about your wife. He took exception to the fact that after my lovely weekend at Shorncliffe I rustled up some cigs: tobacco & sent to them.

Incidentally sweet, you never mention the baccy situation at there. Can you get all that you want - and your favourite pipe smoke? Please let me know.

The second call was from Tim, the Vera, Bill & another Vera who lives next door in Merivale Rd

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and I am going to the Theatre
tomorrow evening. Sweet of them
to ask me don't you think?

You've got some good pals, darling,
and I've more than an inkling
that a certain guy named hez
has asked them to make life
interesting for wifey in his
absence. Shasso sweet?

The Show is "Freud" - and
I think it's had a very good
write-up. I'll be telling you
all about it this weekend.

Bye the bye, did I say that
they have cut out Saturday
afternoon work at the office.

Good oh eh?

never in my
life have I seen such exquisite
blossoms! lupins, begonias, pinks,
Carnations, orchids, and every
one of the thousands of early
Summer ^{blossoms} gathered into a profusion
of colour and perfume calculated
to transplant anybody into
heaven.

I wandered round in a trance,
drinking in all the beauty, and
making plans for the garden
we shall someday enjoy. I
could quite happily have spent
a whole day here. Lardner &
the office seemed as far away as

I went to the most heavenly
flower show luncheon in the
horticultural Hall. Never in my
life have I seen such exquisite
blossoms! lupins, begonias, pinks,
cornflowers, orchids, and every
one of the thousands of early
Summer ^{blossoms} gathered into a profusion
of colour and perfume calculated
to transplant anybody into
heaven.

I wandered round in a trance,
drinking in all the beauty, and
making plans for the garden
we shall someday enjoy. I
could quite happily have spent
a whole day here. London &
the office seemed as far away as

9.

The moon! It was really the annual Chelsea Flower Show - held indoors this year owing to the damage done at Chelsea by rockets.

Somehow, the thought that people could go on building up beauty such as I saw, while war & killing was going on all around, made me feel proud of our spirit. It certainly was a most exquisite show.

I had to pause awhile, as I was as one of I defy anybody to ignore that show. It is still as crazy as ever. The Channel still chips in

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