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The Office.  
Tuesday, 12/6/45.

Dearest Len,

It is the most heavenly day - and I felt as top of the world coming down Whitehall this mornig. The sky was that clear cold blue that we always seemed to strike in our early holidays at Bournemouth, thin fleecy clouds were scudding across the horizon, and a stiffish breeze was blowing.

You know what I wished? That I could nip you up & say "lets declare today a holiday." Then we'd jump into slacks & sweaters, motor down to the coast & go for a sail. Picnic lunch aboard, swim in a sheltered spot, maybe call in a roadhouse on our way back for beer & sandwiches and

music. Wouldn't that be too  
utterly heavenly for words darling?  
Can you imagine! I love to dream  
these glorious day dreams, cos I  
know that one day they'll all come  
true. Besides they snipe you so  
close & make you a physical part  
of my day - and that is good.  
So your baby is keeping  
herself happy.

I might add that one reason  
that my heart is sniping today  
is because more news of Mary  
denob was published this morning  
& the prospect is definitely brighter.

You remember that a week ago  
it was announced that there was  
virtually to be no denob for the  
Senior Service. Now they are talking

3/ much more hopefully & I can do no better than to enclose a clipping which will set at the immediate, up-to-date position.

You'll notice that they mention Class B demands: & it is under that scheme that I imagine you will come out, honey. Who cares how you come out, so long as you get that ticket at the earliest possible date?

I know that you poor boys must thirst for information, & must feel so cut-off & helpless without up-to-date newspapers, so I will try to keep you posted with all the news on those subjects near & dear to your hearts.

By the bye, I posted off your spectacles yesterday by air. So they should arrive pretty quickly. Let me

Know when you have them safely please honey. And I do hope they'll be some use to you in relieving strain.

Speaking of parcels, Sandy McHersan stated on the wireless the other evening that boys are complaining that their wives have to pay duty even though they make their packages "Soldiers gift". Apparently that is not enough. You are each allowed 6 duty-free labels a year unless you obtain 4 which are 4 of these labels on each parcel, duty will be payable. I don't know what you did about the carpets, but in any case honey I'm not particularly worried if I do have to pay some duty. The price of the carpets does not really matter - I'm quite sure they'll be 100% better quality than anything we could buy here.

Notes  
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You sounded a bit depressed the other day when you talked about the fellows who are lucky enough to have homes of their own. But you must remember honey, that mostly they have been married for longer than we, and in many cases already have children.

lots of girls that I know at home here whose husbands are not away have houses & flats too - but generally they are furnished & therefore temporary homes from which they are liable to be ousted at short notice. They haven't even much furniture of their own either. We have at least the makings of a home of our own, & at a pinch could live quite comfortably with what we already have.

And believe me, by the time this  
Summer & autumn are through I shall  
have completely stocked the kitchen  
- judging the way stuff is coming  
on to the market. So don't you  
worry sweet, it will take the  
country a while to change round  
after 6 years of war, but once it gets  
into its stride again the stuff  
will roll along, and will be able  
to buy all the little & big things  
we need.

I was very interested in the  
pictures of Banbar & also your  
little notes of description. - I can  
vaguely imagine these places  
Swamini with natives - from  
memories of Eastern films seen in  
the past. The architecture certainly  
is quite impressive. Your bangaloo

1/ Snaps are inclined to look a little  
awful when compared with the Taj  
Mahal Hotel, huh?

Taking apart though honey you  
take some very good pictures & I'm  
really keen to get started on an  
album. I'll write in all the little  
bits of description that you give  
in your letters - then one day we'll  
be able to sit down by the fire  
& pore over it & listen to some of  
your memories. You'll see honey,  
in a year from now it will all  
seem like a vague dream, & I  
shall feel as though you've never  
been away.

I note with interest that you  
hope to get a camera of your own  
& of course I shall keep on the  
track of films for you. I hope

that you will continue to collect those luxury articles while you're away. - because I think it may be a while before they are plentiful in England.

Old Edger said that if he were away he'd concentrate on buying all those things that could not be procured at home & fill his suitcases that way & leave all his kit behind. Quite a sound idea really.

I know that you should buy some shirts & Sox for your return to Curry Street. Luckily with that slim figure you will fit your old suits & I am concentrating on getting them shipshape. I wonder if fact your overcoat is at the cleaners now.



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last evening mum & I went to the  
Odeon & saw Margaret Lockwood, James  
Masan & Barbara Hullen in "A Place  
of One's Own". Good English film,  
Story of an old couple, retired from  
a Lancashire drapery business who buy  
an old country house to finish their  
days in peace. The wife takes a  
Companion - young beautiful girl -  
who causes the ghost of a <sup>girl</sup> murdered  
in the house to walk & try to come  
back to earth in this girl Companion.  
Not so creepy as it sounds, and  
the old couple played by Barbara &  
James were simply delightful -  
serenely happy & content in one  
another's company. - as I hope that  
you and I will be some day sweet  
when we retire. looking ahead. eh?

last week we saw that Rita  
Hayworth epic about London's  
Windmill Theatre. There was some  
excellent dancing by Rita & a chap  
called Lee Bowman - which really  
killed me. And of course the color  
& costumes were ravishing. They  
fell down rather on the blitz scenes  
which were far from realistic, but  
the film was really quite good.

Remember how we nearly saw it  
in Town together?

Incidentally they advertised  
as a comic attraction "The Suspect"  
with Chas.UGHTON. Seem to  
remember that you saw that a few  
weeks ago in Barbary. - So you're  
not so out of date.

\* So the Rains have Come! And  
I wouldn't mind betting that when  
the first shower started you boys  
were all out in it, letting it  
soak you all over! I'm glad  
you had the sense to buy an iron  
cos damp clothes are the very devil.  
Incidentally watch out that you  
don't put damp clothes on if you  
can help it. Or does that suggestion  
raise a laugh?

Had a card from Muriel L.  
today from Coner where she is  
spending a week. I really must  
write her this week + arrange to  
call on her weekend after next.

That food parcel sounds scrumptious  
honey, it really is awful sweet of  
you to think of us. 'S matter of fact

fruit has been a real miss for me  
right through the war. Any dried  
stuff such as raisins, prunes,  
peaches, apricots &c are a luxury  
as they cost so many points in  
England. Still we are hoping that  
apples will soon be on the market  
again. Incidentally, Sweetheart,  
you'd do well to keep a jar of  
raisins in the bungalow - they  
are exceptionally nutritious & very  
sustaining. Sounds like an advert,  
doesn't it?

Shiny about the cigars. I  
was passing through Army & Navy  
Stores today & very nearly  
sent you a box! Probably would  
be like sending coals to Newcastle  
by the land of it, so I'm glad  
I refrained.

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These are a few scraggy old sheets  
of paper & I hope you'll forgive 'em  
Sweet but they are all I could  
find at home.

So you are going to lie in  
your bunk & day-dream are you?  
Only wish I could be there with  
you and make all those dreams  
come true.

Sometimes I try to imagine  
what our first meeting will be like.  
Perhaps you will phone me without  
warning - and I'm quite sure that  
if you were away for ten years  
I could never mistake that thrilling  
voice.

I guess I shall be stupid &  
want to keep all over you - even

The thought of having you close  
again makes me sob inside sometimes.  
It will be so heavenly to know that  
we meet again shall be parted, but  
right at this moment - it seems  
a long way off and I'll just  
have to keep on day dreaming that  
some day my man will come  
along. ---

That's all I want in this wide  
world, for always,

Your own,

Clare

P.S. No secrets from my hubby - You  
may or may not be interested to hear  
that I had a card from him, Bob &  
Joe - the Americans - the day  
I posted somewhere in France & wishing me  
luck. They apparently moved out right after  
VE-day.

~~W4~~

LONDON W.C.  
11 15 AM  
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