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The Flat.
Friday, 17.8.46

Sweetheart

I left you rather abruptly
yesterday & wonder when to pick up
the threads. I believe I was saying
Thank you for sending those goodies.
I tell you I've never had so many
presents in my whole life! You're

Sweet.

Now, how did you spend
your VJ day? I hope that cold was
better honey - I was sorry to read
about it. Too bad I couldn't have
been around to tell you feeble jokes
and administer doses of castor oil -
You know me, never a dull moment when

I'm around! But joking apart, I do
hope it was nothing more serious
than a chill. You know I trust
you to give me the truth, the
whole truth & nothing but, so don't
you go suffering in silence, or
naturally be cross. If you were
down with it on the 8th - then you
should have been out & about on
15 day - 15th. Were you, sweet?

I do hope you managed to
celebrate in style this time, and
I hope to read about high jinks
in the mess.

Things were quiet for me this
time. I think I mentioned that I

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had to work on Wednesday, and I was ^{the} only one in the room - so there was no chance to get visitors. It was a splendid opportunity to knuckle down to some concentrated work, and surprising as it sounds, that's just what I did.

The weather was not too kind, and it drizzled miserably on the Royal procession to the Houses of Parliament, which I had very much wanted to see. The only part I saw was the beef-eaters, resplendent in scarlet & gold, at the door of the House.

I had intended to go to see

the folks, but it was such a wretched looking evening, I was not too hopeful of getting on a bus to come home, so instead I took myself to the pictures.

Quite a good programme - interrupted in the middle for the King's speech, followed by the playing of Land of Hope & Glory - very moving, and I joined in the singing with all I'd got.

Coming out I met Joan and she came back to the flat for a chat. She is still looking very well & says that baby is eating like a horse since her holiday.

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I won't make any observations upon my own appetite these days as I know that would only call forth more rudeness from you.

The radio reports seem to indicate that there was the same revelry & fun in the West End as at VE. So you have an idea from my letters of those days to remember.

Actually, this news, though long drawn-out last week, is so tremendous that it is difficult even now to believe that there is no more war in the world. Somehow I can't seem to get that excited

I had planned to make it a really homey day, and I shampooed my hair before lunch & settled down to write to you. I was still scribbling when the gang called. They waited for me to pin up my map, powder my nose, & slip into frock, coat & scarf. Then we were off on our way.

As I said, Ken Wellard came along - still looking very fit and hardly changed a bit - except for his hair ^{which was longer} (I wonder if Queen - the wife - also objects to cropped hair?) He was just up for the V5 holiday, and as he is taking 10 days

feeling that came with VE. Possibly
on that occasion people were really
celebrating the end of flying bombs
& rockets. Now we just have to
get our loved ones home & to be
allowed to live our own lives quietly
& in peace.

And, too, people are wondering
inside themselves about our boys
who have been prisoners in Japanese hands.
They have to be found and shipped
away to hospitals & recuperation
centres before they can face the
journey home. Thank heavens
all that horror is over at last.

And now for yesterday. I had a lovely lie-in, just sort of waking & dozing and dreaming wonderful dreams of the glorious times that lie ahead of us. We are lucky, darling.

I suddenly roused myself and jumped into slacks & sweater, cos I intended to put in some work on our domain. After breakfast

I swept & dusted our room & cleared all the books & knicks-knacks away & polished our furniture until it shone. By the time I'd finished, everything in the place was glowing, and so was I!

hen took a snap of the Cufleys
& myself later on - but I must
confess I took a sketch, so when
you get it make allowances for the
fact that my hair was still wet
& that I was unprepared.

Incidentally hen has arranged
for that snap at the Pool to be
enlarged & Vera will be sending it
along to you any day now.

If you know Yalding at all
you'll remember the old old pub, and
bridge across the river at that spot.
We had sandwiches & a glass of
beer out in the garden. (The only
drinks I had to toast V.S.).

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leave next week up in N. Wales,
decided to come to Llandan for these
two days. I saw some pictures
of Queen, and she looks very charming
& attractive - a school teacher, by
the bye.

The sun was shining & we
motored out into Kent & finally
camped by the river at Yalding.
I believe your boys have at some
time camped near that spot. Ken
& I in donned bathing costumes &
did a bit of swimming & took Sue
in after a while. That child simply
loves the water, & looks like being
a Champ. Some day.

stationed in, or nearby Bombay. - so
maybe you two could get together.
Vera has sent him your address &
if you care to write to him, the
officer will find him: -

Sgt. Colin Macdonald,
6468769, Royal Fusiliers,
2619, W.A. Infantry.
India Command.

He should arrive I believe about
the time this letter reaches you,
so shake off that cold in the head
& prepare to welcome one of the
lads from home. I do hope
his camp is fairly near Braganza
so that you can thumb your noses
at the mansions together.

" Coming back home the sun was setting & the country looked wonderful - all gold and green. The farmers are gathering the hay & stacking it now & we passed lots of water in the fields. As for the fruit trees - they are just laden in Kent.

Just wait till we get our car, and can take a spin out to a roadhouse or beauty spot in the evenings after work. Won't it be heavenly?

By the way, Colin Macdonald is on his way to India & is to be

I was jolly glad to read of your trip to Breach Candy, and as though life will take an even more pleasing pattern for the next few months before you come home.

Certainly you seem to have experienced the worst of the weather since your arrival. - So maybe the last part of your sojourn in that country will leave you with pleasant memories.

I am sending £2 postal order with this - post offices were shut Wed: & Thurs: So this is the first opportunity I have had of sending any of Doris's money.

Funny to think that tomorrow
begins a weekend. Nothing but
holidays these days for me, and
there'll be more still when you
come home.

The gang all wished to be
remembered & hope you'll be reaching
these shores again soon. That goes
a millionfold from me too.

Have a happy weekend, darling,
and take care of yourself for me,

I love you,

Clare

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Polym Kit

Plmx. 500221

HW'S BRACANZA

CONSTAN FORCES

BOMBAY

INDIA

