

89
(5 Minutes)

The Flat.
Wednesday.

Dearest Liz

Two reasons for much
a joy for this girl tonight in the
shape of your 62 & 63. Harry a
chuckle broke the stillness of this room,
and I put them down finally with the
feeling that my darling was happy, and
that is my heart's desire. So I am
happy too.

I was glad to read that
the weather is improving slightly &
that you get a chance to dry &
dobby your stuff. This talk of bees
& other creepy-crawlies sounds horrid,
and I can just imagine how you must
bask in it sweet! So you have been

making the old ho-1. diddlely huh?
You'll be a positive work of art with
your badges + stripes + medal ribbons.
and people will turn + stare + say
he looks as though he's done his bit.
And I shall be proud of my sailor
-man. Another person who will swell
with pride + joy at sight of you is
your pop. All the family talks about
these days is when we will all be
together again.

I told you about the party we
are planning. I reckon our friends
will make things rip if they all
come along, eh? Incidentally, Pat
rang me today, she is once more
back in London + I have asked her
to come over to the flat on Sunday

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to tea & maybe if it is fine we will go for a walk or see a film or sunbathe in the evening.

It is ages since I saw Lini & Vera & I really must rip them tomorrow. Pat tells me that the babes have just recovered from colds - so I guess Vera has not had too easy a time. There have been quite a lot of colds & 2-day flu about lately & I don't wonder - as the weather has been decidedly wintry of late.

I hope you enjoyed your two days' break, however, belated though they may be, and that you had fun looking around the shops and visiting the places of interest in Bombay.

In past letters you have mentioned all sorts of things you intend to buy and I fear that I have not answered all your questions on the subject so I will go into detail now.

Carpets - I agree with you sweet that we do not need any more full-sized carpets. I am more & more inclined to the idea of polished parquet or similar flooring, with occasional rich-looking rugs here & there. Nice eh?

Rugs - After Doris's two I certainly think we could do with a couple more - though, if I remember rightly, you intend to buy & send 'em two at a time, with one for each in each parcel, if you get me. Would you mind making it clear how many when you

⁵ despatch more. Always supposing of course that you will be in that country long enough to arrange any more to be despatched.

Cloth. You mention buying for more silk. Certainly dress lengths - any bright color (emerald, turquoise, gold, royal blue) length 3 to 4 yards of 36" width, will be like gifts from heaven.

Or lingerie silk - any pastel shade, any length.

As for Sinking - I certainly could do with a new one and you are a cherub to think of it. Joan said only the other day that my brown one was on its last legs. - but I'm awful fond of that suit & can't bear the

thought of giving it up.

If you do get the chance of some
Sukkie I'd love a brown chalk stripe,
or, pin check, or oxe check. Or even
a plain black. Or for that matter
any colour except grey which I simply
cannot wear.

length. $2\frac{3}{4}$ - 3 yards of 54" wide

Shoes - You're a pet & I shall

draw around my foot & design some
models to enclose herewith. Wedgies
are still a weakness of mine & I still
can't see any to buy.

linen - By now you have probably
looked around & may even have bought
some. Chiefly our needs are for table-
cloths - for we have only ^{for} everyday
use.

7 If you could buy a couple of gay-checked ones for breakfast, a couple of plain white ones with a border for ordinary use, & maybe a super silky one for party occasions - we'd be well set-up.

As for bed linen, honey, we have a little & I have applied for docketts for some more, and I think we shall be OK in that line until there is more in the shops here.

Your own clothes - I am glad to see that you are going to buy socks shirts & pyjamas out there - your stock is certainly low. Can't you find a shop that sells jackets only or was it only trousers you used to wear? I forget - I never really

remember seeing you in any at all.
You did Adonis you!

And that's quite enough about
shopping - honestly I seem to do
nothing but ask you to get stuff. You
are really sweet to make all the
lovely suggestions - honestly you're
one in a million, and I love you.

Talk as you will about my
appetite, you're a bit jealous, though
I hardly think you exactly pick at
your food. In any case I reckon
if any of the lads see those latest
pictures of me they'll accuse you of
half-starving me. The outline still
resembles that of a greyhound doesn't
it sweet?

9 I've been wearing my hair long
& windswept lately and it is
generally approved. Must say it
looks nice & soft & girlish - but
I confess I feel more myself when
it is more sleek. Still on our
next leave I can wear it girlish
during the day & put it up when we
dress for dinner. How's that sweet?

Which brings me to the question
of where we are to spend our next
honeymoon. I will just start
by saying that wherever we go will
be heaven for me honey. and I am
open to any suggestion you may like
to make.

But I must say that Looquay sounds
a pip to me. We'd have the warmth
of the South, the nightlife we used
to enjoy at B'n, the glorious Devastie
Countryside to explore by car if we
could hire one, and the lovely rocky
coast to wander along & watch the
waves breaking into the coves. I
can't imagine anything more wonderful
than all those joys in your company.

More than half my life nowadays
is spent up in the clouds. I picture
our meeting... our first meal together...
preparing cocoa before going to bed...
Settling into our flat. I imagine us
travelling along country lanes in a
car, with the English Countryside spread

" Grand us, and we snuggled down
in my fur coat in the front seat
reveling in the nearness of you,
with one hand maybe under yours
on the steering wheel. I imagine
the car parked high on a hill, with
a starry sky overhead of you and
I dreamily watching the lights of
a town twinkling far below us.

I thrill at the thought of dancing
with you, and having fun in the
middle of a lot of people dancing
an authentic rumba while we have
the fun of our hips wagging our
hips in the middle of the floor.

Just the reading of a bare notice
the other day that Yachtie had started
at Cases was enough to transport me

to another land. We were mixing
with crowds of people dressed in
jackets, sweaters & Yachting Caps,
whose love in this life is the feel
of a boat running with the wind. We'd
be spending a short holiday on the
Island at the time of some huge
regatta, and the talk in the bars in
the evening would circle around boats
& mizzens & gibes & what-have-yet

Oh, darling, there are a million
and one glorious things that I
want to do, and in your company
life will be one long happiness.

That old question of demob is
still very much in the news sheet.
The Minister of Labour has answered
questions in the House today.

1. They do not intend to depart from the age + service idea, because they want to treat the home + overseas boys alike. You are not forgotten honey lamb.

2. They are to release H5,000 a week and it is hoped that a further speed-up may be possible. A definite statement concerning this will be made at the end of Sept. & until then all rumour shd. be ignored. I promise to send you all the official statements, whatever they may be - cos I know how heart aching it is to be dried up & let down afterwards, and I suggest that any other clippings or tales be ignored honey.

3. Undoubtedly the group numbers in the different services will not tally because the Navy has fewer men in each group than the Army. eg. group

26 in the Navy has 16,000 men & the
same group in the Army has 250,000 men!

I think you will beat the rest of
the gang even now sweetheart - I
believe this is a trifle depressed about
the slow rate of demob. The Army
has certainly been left to indulge in
more optimism than the other services
& it must be a let-down.

I am still counting on having
you here by Christmas, and if it is
earlier than so much the more wonderful.

And now for a bit more of the
chant.

Thighie - night, and remember
I'll always love you,

Clare

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Colm. L. H. Westwood.

P/mx. 500221.

Thrs. Bangalore.

Coastal Forces

BANGALURU.

INDIA