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104(a)

The Flat.  
Wednesday. 10/10/45

I'm still on top of the world - and I guess that I'm just going to get progressively happier & more excited until you finally step ashore. The weather here has been absolutely marvellous this week & has added to my general feeling of well-being.

Honestly, it's just like midsummer, and I'm hoping that it is a portent of a mild winter - if you are coming home from India you hardly want to find snow on the ground!

I have just had lunch with Betty - she rang me up cos she was feeling blue & wanted a cheery lunch time. She was due to have a week's leave with hubby & it has been cancelled at the last moment. We went to the canteen at Abell House - amazing lunch for 1/5<sup>00</sup> - roast beef, marmalade roll & roll butter & coffee! Afterwards we toured the Army & Navy Stores, always very crowded in the lunchtime.

LATER

Yesterday I went through the A & T's Furniture department to get ideas for our V. furn. I was informed that there are 4 types in dining room stuff - light oak with either matt or cellulose finish, medium oak, and very dark oak. Of the four I think I prefer the medium for a dining room, it looks warmer, and I hope you agree sweetheart. Unfortunately the mahogany is only being used for bedroom stuff - and it does look nice! Pity we

Could not have got a mahogany dining suite.  
A.M. Could supply from stock on payment  
of the complete cost, but the 'aily medium  
oak' suite they had the table bases seemed  
to be out of alignment. So I said I'd think it  
over.

Coming away from there I wandered through  
the hardware dept & asked if they had any Judge  
or aluminium stuff. Imagine my surprise when  
the man produced an aluminium saucepan. I was  
told I could have one, and I must have appeared  
overjoyed because he said if I came back in a  
few minutes he would find me a kettle to match!  
Whoopee! That's a good start we now have a  
frying-pan, saucepan & kettle, and all good looking  
types.

Got carrying them home I felt as awkward  
as a bull in a china shop. They were bulky  
packages & made such a ghastly hollow bang if  
they knocked into a hard surface.

I rang Maples of Tottenham Court. Rd. about  
V. furniture & was told they would take five or  
six weeks to deliver. It seems that dining room  
stuff is easier to get than the upholstered articles.  
I will most probably look up there tomorrow  
lunchtime because they have sample suites on  
show of every type & I shall be able to get the  
general idea better. Oh I wish you were here to  
choose with me, darling.

Mrs. honey, I think the red carpet is more  
suitable for a bedroom & I shall certainly do as  
you suggest. I must call in Hesters of Victoria St.  
and order a 9' x 9' under felt for the new carpet -  
it makes such a difference.

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Clare to her.