

The Flat.  
Tuesday, 23. 10.

My darling  
We've just been listening  
to Monty and Churchill speaking  
at the El Alamein anniversary dinner.  
I guess that most things can be funny  
or wonderful in retrospect, and certainly  
the things that these two men had to  
say were very inspiring and, at times,  
amusing. I suppose in a few weeks  
time when we are together again we  
shall be able to look back on these  
past months of separation and pick  
out spots of interest to relate to one  
another. But while the parting is real  
I just lay to get it over. And I  
know you feel the same way too.  
Still for the moment there are always

2 letters eh sweet?

Which brings me to your nos  
83 & 84. I was extremely sorry  
to read about the accident to the  
spool of film - I too was looking  
forward to a set of interesting pictures.  
Whassa matter? Is it your noivel?  
Still better luck next time, Sweetheart.

As to the picture of the Sun Sprite, I  
can't imagine why the lads didn't  
want a print - in the first place I  
would not have realised you were  
in the picture had you not informed  
me of that fact, and secondly the  
sun spot or smudge camouflages the  
fact that you are in the nude -  
you saucy man. I can see that  
you are going to have a job getting

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back into Western Society, and I positively refuse to spend my holidays at undist colonies! We'll have to find a quiet and secluded spot of our own, Cos I'd love to see this Sun & sea-bathing in the altogether. Sands luxurious!

Reading straight on - I have sent the £10's draft & it should arrive at Bombay bank as before.

Next - Tea - dahip we have plenty in hand to last us & the ration has been slightly increased. Everybody nowadays has enough with the ration & even after giving a quarter away here & there we still have 2 lbs. in the cupboard. So no more of that commodity thank you dahip.

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Doing for weeks now I've been looking around for your birthday present. But it's very difficult to get anything decent - there is not a single leather article to be had in hand, and with coupons as they are, clothes are out of the question. So being nothing if not original I fell back on the old standby, and thought of a pipe. Well, to cut a long story short, I generally pestered tobacconists, stores & supply agents for something decent. But to no avail.

Do you remember the pipe situation a couple of years back? Well multiply it by ten and divide the

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result by the number you first thought of, and you get same idea of the number available. The answer was a lemon.

However I am made of ston stuff, and I discovered that hoovers have a small supply, most mornings early. So I had a half-day of my leave (still got 5 days left) and arrived in Haymarket about 5 minutes to nine last Friday morning. Ah - but I was not the first, and I had to tag on the end of a small queue of husky men from all country's and most of them in uniform. At 9.0 am. we all filed in and craned our necks to see the counter. There, on a small velvet case lay a

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handful of pipes & we began  
counting the number against the number  
of people. Woe is me - they sold  
the last one before my turn came!  
But nothing daunted I inquired when  
the next lot would be in, & on  
Monday I got there early & secured one.  
I do hope you will like it, sweet,  
I'm afraid that it is very similar to  
one that you have already, but you  
will understand that there was no  
choice, and I hope it will smoke  
sweet & mucky.

But to return to my morning  
out. I had my coupons with me and  
enough cash for a pair of shoes and  
as these are very difficult to find I  
thought I'd make good use of the

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spare time. So I proceeded into  
Dobson of Leicester Square & asked for  
my needs - a pair of dainty brown  
Suede size 5. They brought me the  
only shoe in my size in the shop -  
a heavy die walking shoe & I left  
in disgust. That started a trek into  
every shoe shop in the West End, queues  
&c &c. until in the end I was just  
asking for any shoe in my size.

Strangely enough a press photographer  
took a picture of one queue I was in  
& next day the Daily Express ran an  
article on the trials & tribulations of  
ladies shoe-hunting expeditions!  
I couldn't find myself in the picture  
but the story could have applied to me  
& a million others.

However I did get fixed up in

my choice. A brown brogue court  
Shoe in leather - looks nice with Suits  
- very neat & will probably wear better  
than today's Suede - so altogether I  
can cond myself lucky.

This purchase was made at 11.15  
- two hours' of solid grind - good  
job it was a glorious sunny day.  
Then, darling, despite my words about  
buying a hat, I went & tried a  
few on, and found a stunning  
one. I stood & looked at myself  
in it - tried on others, and kept  
coming back to it, and it was  
an inevitable buy. It was not that  
it was terribly expensive (2.2.0), but  
that it was so smart that I  
wondered what opportunities I'd have  
to wear it.



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the end though they were not exactly

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In the end I thought we are bound to spend some days in Taou when you come home & it will be just ideal for day wear, walking in handcar, or lunching at the high-spots. It is brown, quite plain, but with a wonderful, broad, sweeping trim which suits my small pointed features, and makes me feel like a million dollars. Sound OK. Sweet? I am sure you will like it. The girls just voted in a Smasheroo! So I am now all kitted up for the great day, and don't intend to spend another bean on myself.

As to glamorous undies, honey I am making what I can from some odd lengths of silk that I am

has passed on to me. Afraid coupons  
won't run so much in that line.  
However maybe we can buy sumpin  
nice when you get your 90. - I  
should like just one glamorous nightie  
and a slip-in-kicker set. What a  
world!

Incidentally I wish I could have  
some of the Sun-baths that you are  
having now. You'd have to pay good  
money here in England for that kind  
of beauty treatment. But next summer  
with the gang all home, we'll spend  
our weekends at the Pool, getting  
all the fresh air & sunshine we can  
absorb. Solid !!

Give yourself a mighty hug  
from me, who loves you.

Clare

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Polm. L. H.  
Plm. Seega

Miss. Baganza  
Coastal Services.

BOMBAY

INDIA.

