

87.

Bombay.

23.10.45.

Hello darling,

This is your favourite reporter bringing to you all the latest in news from the battle front. Today we have started the Grande Finale - we have started to close the base. It's estimated that the work of clearing up will take until 1st Dec., & after that a month of care-taking will bring us to Dec. 31st the latest date when the R.I.M. are expected to take over. After that? - well you guess. If by that time I'm not in England or well on my way I shall be a very disappointed man. I shan't enlarge on this news, Sweet, because, knowing the Navy, I'm certain that any surmising, on my part - will be contradicted as the weeks go by. Also, let me repeat that none of these moves affect the major issue - the draft to U.K.

I have a letter tonight from you

Howey, (unnumbered, you liddle times, you)  
but postmarked 15.10. - they don't ought  
do they?

How what have I been writing to  
make your heart-thump so? Ha! Been  
telling you how much I love you? Well  
so I do - with a shadow of doubt about that.

Haugh! To business. I had  
intended to enquire about the coal & heat  
position. I read in the papers that coal  
is rationed & may be bought up to two  
different maximums in two periods - I'm  
assuming that you'll make the necessary  
enquiries in due course & if possible (depending  
on the delivery position & space coal-bunkers  
space available at Blessington), buy  
the 10 cwt, whatever it is, in one  
purchase. It is obviously a good bet  
to buy an electric fire, & if I were you,  
darling, I would <sup>not</sup> make it too small -  
a fair sized fire - sufficient to keep a  
room at a comfortable temperature -  
always useful. I think it's most  
essential to keep warm - so do you,  
obviously - so don't want the cost, baby.  
I believe there were points in every room  
- one will serve us for a while.

The Gas stove sounds O.K. + surely they'd get them in No. 12 before 6 weeks. As you say, a bulk order would influence them in rushing the ~~order~~ installation. Does it have a grill for steaks? Most important y'know.

Certainly get the felt. The st' Maestro says get the dearest stuff, for in our little flat comfort is to be the theme + for an extra £1 it's not worth thinking about cheaper material. I want to sink up to my ankles in the plush.

I think that's all the business finished for the day. Can't think of any queries I want to raise, + information required. You're keeping me nicely up-to-date with the position, sweetly, + your Debra Oosy's well satisfied. I'm ~~still~~ disturbed about the rushing abouts to + fro that you have to do, Honey, but I guess I must leave it to your good sense to ease up when

the going gets too hectic - I ain't anxious  
to get the flat at the expense of an  
exhausted wife - especially so precious  
a wife as you, my pet.

Glad to read you're yaffling the  
vitamins that she sent you. There'll  
be more following on, & the idea is to  
get outside of big cats on every occasion  
- nothing like it for building up the old  
constitootium. Watch me when I get home  
- vacation or not.

Speaking of vacations, my Overbody,  
tomorrow you'll have to go a little short.

I've an orfool lotta ddbbering to do  
- no cash to pay the Bobbie - & after  
that a little make-do-and-mending  
- no cash to pay the tailor. In place  
of the missing pages, sweet, read that  
one of mine you like so much & double  
up on the push. When it comes to  
loving you I don't know my own  
strength.

Love from little Hercules,

*J*  
*R*

Dr. Helise Brown

POST OFFICE

WESTVALE

WARTIME

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Walling

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Received  
4011.43