

Sun., 7 P.M., Oct. 4,

[c. 1942]

Dear Jim -

Just got back from Monrovia where we have been to the show at Utes, "How Pearl Harbor" I did not like it so well. Monrovia is still up in his wheel chair, and doing fairly well, the rest of the people around I met as are O.K. They always ask about you when we go down there, I saw Mrs. Gunn this morning and she said she was going to your place to-day just to look around and take a look at the old home.

Things are going fairly well here at Hindman. Not much news of interest. This week comes the M.H.R.C.A. and as you probably know I am one of the directors, and also on the Resolution Committee. There are others on the committee whom I know and of course they will have to see the report.

I believe I told you we have a cat that came to stay with us, and is almost exactly like Timothy. He is now playing on

the floor with a hickory mat having
a great time.

I haven't heard from you in about
two weeks, it seems a long time.
If you have made your soil & hope things
go well with you and all ~~with you~~ on
board, I can sympathize with anybody
who crosses the ocean. It may not hurt
you but I am of the opinion it will.

We will be looking forward to hearing
from you often, may you succeed in the etc.
do things in sure you are capable of doing.
and hasten the end of the war.

With best regards and

Dear yours friend

John C. ...

Bucknell, Fla.

Oct 5, 1942.

Dear Jim,

As I was writing Inez. I was wondering where you were. I hear from Inez often, and as were fine she wrote last.

We are having October's big & blue weather. It rather cool nights & mornings, and so dry. The field & yards are an ash bank. Sixteenth day of August since we had our last big rain.

Our beans has grown so slow, and just beginning to bear. I picked our first mess this morning. I had to pick one or two here and there, but finally I got enough. Wish you could be with us for dinner. I remember so well how you like them.

Pat + Tom were ...
They are both growing fast and lots of company.
Just at the stage they wait to know why +
where for. Tom ask me, where is Uncle Jim
why dont you write him some times. All the
letter we get from one time to the other we
have to read to them. They are ^{so} interested they
sit quite as a mouse and ask for more.

We hear from Bill often he is still in
Newport, Rhode Island.

I guess you remembered Papa had a birth-
day Oct. 29. I sent a card to him. I read something
like this, you always smile thin thick + thin,
and is a good sport to take it on the chin.
a great big man was shaving.

Can you imagine, the other day we had been
living in Sumner County eleven years. And
Fannie Mae has been gone most this long.
In one way it seems so long + so many thin,

Mar. 11/1900.

If you haven't heard. Tom was finally drafted and Alfred joined the Merchant Marines. I don't know their address. If you have them send the to me. None the rest seems to know or forget to send them to me. I heard Alfred was Station at Mobile Ala.

We have a few berries blooms. So the next this a ripe strawberry. Probably by Thanksgiving. Every one is fine and drop us a few lines occasionally as I am anxious to hear from you. Mail time so I must hurry.

Love
E. L. Love.

Gadsden, Ala.
Oct. 6, 1942.

Dearest James,

Serently hope you are feeling fine and enjoy-
ing the best of health. We are all well
we went down to Columbus, Ga. last Wed-
nesday on account of the serious illness
of Billie Barnes he has sugar diabetes and
he went into a coma. he is still in Hospital
but we are going back Friday bring him
and aunt Mollie to Gadsden for a few
weeks. can't back by Dad's he is feeling
good now after having a severe
cold. James write him of ton. Every body
there were well. Comer and Mary Tolson
supper with us Sat. nite. Mrs. Adams
is coming this Sat. to spend several
days with Comer and Mollie's. my monthly roses
are beautiful. Peanut and Doug are playing
summie. We are having cold nights and
mornings. Billie was turned down in army.
Write soon lots of Love your sister Inez.
The children are in school they are growing
so fast. all the school's are out for a few
days to help the farmers pick cotton. Love
Dora's says Hello again

October.8.1042.

Dear Jim

All ar well at this time

I Guess you knew Comer had move to Gadesdin
Alfred is talking of going to Mobiel to work in the
shipbilding plant, he said he could make twice as
much there. Dugand Inez was by the other day or
there way home from Collumbus, ~~he~~ down to see
Billie he came home from camp sick.

Tom thinks he will leave for camp the 13th

Enoree call me up yesterday said they were all
well. johm came by the other day.

Well every thing is very quirt around here I

still have plenty to do.

Write soon and all the news. Asever Pop

Monday Morning
Oct. 19, 1942.

Dear Jim.

I didn't intend waiting so long to write, but its peanut digging time, being it was dry, just the kind of weather needed. We worked early + late. Have 5 acres to pull. and half there waiting on the others to mature a little more before finishing. There isnt any help to get, so every one has to do his own work out till it goes.

I Had a letter from Papa last week, and was I surprised, said he was willing you + corner to

Today is a beautiful one. Makes me want to just sit out in the sun and day dream. I guess that what you would call it. But dont call and so much to be done.

Tomorrow is basket shipping day. Have about 100 to trim + pack. and I always dread it.

Well Jim the money you sent, I made a down payment on a Bed Room suit, which was ~~very~~ needed very much. I wanted to put it in something I could keep.

I tuned in the other night on the Radio, and Carl Sandberg or (Sandberg), was talking

had heard so much about Tom, and read so many of his writings I had always wanted to hear him talk. He is a very interesting speaker.

Earl, Helen + kids were up a while last night.

They are all fine. Tom + Pat are both going and always asks about you, they can't understand why you don't ever come! They watch the other soldiers and if they see one resembles you they will say, That looks like Uncle Jim.

~~I don't see why he doesn't play with these soldiers sometimes.~~

I hear from Billy most every day. He is hoping he will get to come home soon.

Jim what kind of razor blades do you use single or double edge? Probably I could send you some. Is there anything else that you would like to have that you can't buy.

Will write when you have time and can. If only a few words to let us know how you are.

Love

Ellore -

KNOTT COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

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JETHRO AMBURGEY, Supt.

--

HINDMAN, KENTUCKY

Oct. 21st, 1942

Board Meets:

First Monday
Each Month

Dear Jimmie:

I have written you since I heard from you, and I'm sure you are on the other side somewhere by not hearing from you. I hope your trip on the boat was not so unpleasant. I know something about a boat ride and can say it served me rough.

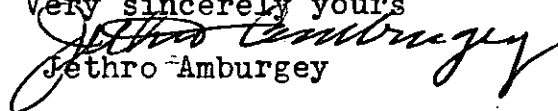
We are going to win this war, things are getting better gradually as our preparations and equipment mount. Let us hope it won't be too long. I know the soldier often thinks what we are doing back home to help. I'm sure we do not do all we can, as you know it is hard for us to get down and do things, because we are so far away from the actual thing. We are putting on a scrap iron drive with the schools participating and we sure are doing a good job.

We are gathering our crops for the winter now and we sure have got plenty of fine potatoes, about 35 bu. on ~~xx~~ a small garden spot. I will have plenty of corn I suppose although I have not visited Melvin for awhile.

I am taking off a day or so in the near future and go to Dead Mare Branch for a little rest. My work is plentiful, and I sure do need some rest. I haven't heard from Melvin and the folks on Little Carr for awhile but I'm sure they are getting along fine.

We will try to write you regular and hope things go well with you whether you are on the battle front or on duty wherever you lot may fall. Our thoughts are constantly on you and hoping you do the best job possible.

Very sincerely yours


Jethro Amburgey

Madison, Ala.

Oct. 23. 1942

Dearest James

Sure is hope's you are well
and enjoying site seeing.
I am fine after being a
little sick mon. Tues. Went
back to work To-day Friday
Aunt Mollie and Billie
went home this morning
They seem to enjoy there
visit here. Peanut boy
friend, ^{J. E. Brown} join the Army and
is in Real Bank N. J. he
likes fine. And Peanut
is very anxious to get in
we wont him to wait
and finish high school
our brother Tom is in
the Army but that is

all I can tell you about him
and the latest news is
our brother Alfred has
you up with the merchant
marines. That's all I can
tell you about him. But
Cora, Mary and Rose may
be visiting down home
this week end. So we are
going over to see them
Monday nite. And I'll
write you all the news I
know. James are there
any thing especially ^{you} like
for us to send you. As
let us know at once.

It's been raining some
to day so I guess it will
sure turn cold. Write of to
us. We hope to see
you again. Lots of
love from all of us.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Department of English
and Foreign Languages

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

24 October, 1942

Dear James,

First of all, Sergeant Still, congratulations must surely be in order. Since you disappeared into the Army and, after that one letter from Duncan Field, into a deep maw of silence, I -- along with other of your friends -- have often wondered about you, where you were, what your duties were, how you were getting along. Now you suddenly emerge as a full-fledged non-com. May you be as honored as another sergeant who came from Kentucky in World War I!

Mr. Smith, the postmaster at Littcarr, was kind enough to send me your correct address, complete with all serial numbers which are supposed to insure prompt delivery of soldier mail; and I hope that this does reach you wherever you are outside of this country. I am sorry now that I had not written to him months ago, for the letters which were sent to Duncan Field are probably still somewhere in the mails and may remain there for the duration. In your letter from Texas last March you failed to indicate your Army status, something which they tell me is almost essential for the safe delivery of soldier mail. Hence I could never be sure that my letters there had reached you. Not that I demanded the assurance of a reply; I figured that your days this past summer have been filled with other matters more pressing than social correspondence. But I am glad to have a more certain address, and I shall forward it to Miss Katherine Anne Porter also. Some time ago she and I exchanged notes, with Lam Davis as an intermediary in the background, on the subject of your whereabouts, and she asked me to let her know if I ever learned where you were.

(Did you know that she had gotten a divorce in Reno this summer? Meanwhile she is still working on the novel which was supposed to have come out last year. Davis says that she feels that more reworking is necessary, and so she refuses to surrender the manuscript while Harcourt, Brace postpones the book from season to season.)

There is little to report of the literary life. Many of the best writers are in war work, and the others take plenty of time to say what they have to say these days. Those who go ahead at full speed are the mediocre and the bad. It has got so that I look at most review copies with a sinking feeling that is seldom lifted by what is between the covers of the book itself. Here at V. P. I. we are kept so busy that I find little time for the reading that I want to do. Mrs. Lewars has just sent me a copy of her new book, a historical novel of the Pennsylvania frontier during the French and Indian wars. An ancestor of mine is one of the characters; I shall be interested in A HIGH WIND RISING to see what he looks like in fiction.

This school, because of its military and engineering advantages, has seen no falling off in enrollment, and as many new freshmen entered in September as we had had at the beginning of the new twelve-month session last June. With more than 3000 students to look after, we have been kept plenty busy. The proposed law on the drafting

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Department of English
and Foreign Languages

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

of the eighteen and nineteen year olds has caused a few resignations. There is no certainty as to what the status of the school will be after the law passes. Perhaps we will become a SATC unit. Or, if the students go, I figure that all of us able to lift a gun or walk a mile without collapsing will be in the Army by that time also. When I wrote to you last, I was trying to get into the Navy. Well, I'm still trying. But getting into the armed services isn't so easy when you are married and have children, and have no special qualifications such as a lapsed R. O. T. C. commission in your background. For a while the Navy was taking English teachers; now they've stopped taking them, unless they have extra qualifications, over thirty. As I was thirty-five on my last birthday, I fit into a very definite age group. And the Army apparently doesn't want married men unless they are really needed, in which case they will be drafted. So I sit and wait, and hope that one of these days my status will be cleared up either by acceptance or rejection. It's pretty hard at times, though, to feel that you are doing enough just by buying the bonds and paying the taxes.

My sister-in-law, whom you met in Brooklyn the other summer, has been here with her little girl since June. They leave for home next week. We shall miss them, and my little hellions have enjoyed having her to play with. Pete and Stewart grow and wax in wickedness. Living on the campus as we do, they take in all of the drills and parades. Pete is old enough now to take in with pleasure the gory details of the war that he overhears on the radio or from conversation. He takes great pleasure in digging holes on the campus in order to bury fallen walnuts which are to him dead Germans.

And speaking of the Germans, a friend who was with the American embassy in Berlin came home with the diplomatic and newspaper people this summer. He has some strange stories to tell of his last several years in Naziland. He was also pastor of the American church in Berlin before it collapsed; and he drew on his experiences there for a pretty interesting Saturday Evening Post article the other week. Perhaps you saw it. I have forgotten the title, but it was by Stewart W. Herman, Jr.

I am mailing some cigarettes as a small Christmas token. Unfortunately, I have forgotten your brand. But if they are a kind that you cannot use yourself, I hope that you can exchange them for the brand you prefer.

The article on you and Stuart has been reprinted twice. Perhaps you will be interested to know that your name is mentioned from time to time; and your books in the library here keep steadily in circulation. So you see you are not being forgotten even though you probably find little time for writing now. Do you get a chance to do any work at all?

And won't you write one of these times and tell me something about yourself? Meanwhile, the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Dayton

still enjoying
the American Home.

Dadsden Ala.

Oct. 28, 1942

Dearest James.

Sure hope you don't get bored at me
writing you so much, even if I'm
not hearing from you. We recently
hope you are well. We are having
cool weather now my dad's all are
killed as old folks frost slip up and
bit them. We went over to see
Comer and Mary Monday nite they are
well. They enjoyed there trip down
home sat all the folks. Alfred is
not in the marines he's working in
Mobile Ala loading ship. Tom is
already gone in Army but Comer
hasn't found out as they hadn't
hear what camp he's in. Dad is well
we are playing and going to a foot ball game
Friday nite Dadsden & Emma Samson will
play. Billie and Aunt Mollie went home
Friday P.M. we miss them lots. The
children are having a rope corn game
you should see the girls in there
Halloween costumes they look like real
goldmines. A lot of love we think of you each
time.



Frank Rosengren

109 W. Travis Street

Milam Building

Hannin 3473

San Antonio, Texas

Current Books
Americana . . .
Fine Prints . .
Fine Bindings .
Rare Books . .
First Editions
Standard Sets

Oct. 28, 1942

James
Dear Ms. Still -

We tried to find out your new address and the one we were given was obtained after so much difficulty that I am afraid to trust it enough to send you the Christmas box we planned for you. Several of those who were at the house the Sunday evening you spent with us wanted to make you up a Christmas box, but we could not find where to send it. We wrote Viking without success and when we finally did find someone at Duncan who would tell us, it was given with no assurance that it would reach you. Therefore - no box - but only good wishes.

We have established quite a "Still" group. I had read some of the short stories, but during the past month I've read all three books and I am simply entranced. I had never realized how beautiful your style is and how ~~comforting to the ear and the heart the stories are.~~

George Perry's new book has just been published. It is titled - "Texas - A World in Itself" and the response has been very enthusiastic in this State, and quite satisfactory elsewhere. I would like you two to know one another. You are very different, but I think you would have much in common. George and Claire were over for supper Sunday evening and another dozen people and we had a lovely evening.

My young brother is in the paratroops. He has been laid up for a few weeks with a broken leg, but he has been released from the hospital and will soon be sent overseas. While he was in the hospital his regiment was sent off so he will probably be transferred to a new group.

If you know of anything that we can do for you that will help you in any way, please let us know.

Frank joins me in sending you our best wishes. We both hope somehow you will manage to write.

Sincerely,

Florence R.

918 Spruce St
Gadsden
Ala.

Gadsden Alabama
Oct, 29, 1942
6:30 P.M.

Dear Jim;

So far we haven't had a word from you since you left the U.S.A. However I don't seem to be so much worried about you for I know there is every protection for possible for all convoys of troops.

We spent last week end down home I got off Friday at 12⁰⁰ o'clock and we left Gadsden a 12⁵⁰ arriving in Fairfax after 7 hours of impossible comfort by bus.

Papa is doing fine, he seems to get younger every day. Although I could tell that he was worried about his boys.

Alfred, has gone to Mobile and is working for Alabama

dry docks. I saw him Sunday morning.
He said that he had a good job and
is well satisfied.

Tom, left for the army today
I don't know yet just where he has
gone to.

James Johnson is in Parachute
Infantry. His address is Pvt. James A Johnson
Hq. Co. W 3rd Bn.
506th Parachute Infantry
Camp Yoccoa, Yoccoa, Georgia.

Jois and Allen are doing fine.
Lonie & Kembreu are happy as ever although
worried about their boys. Kembreu is doing
church work again.

I am working on the first shift
now, seven days a week.

The girls in my department have
just found out via grape vine that I
have a brother who is a writer name
James Still U.S. Army air corps.

I got quite a build up there.

I have tried to think of something to send you for Christmas but as yet I can't think of a thing.

I am still buying over a bond a month.

I weigh somewhere in the territory of 170 pounds. and growing every day.

I am enclosing a clipping of Montgomery Advertiser.

Paul Thomas use to barber at Reynolds barber shop in Fairfax.

I hope to hear from you in a few days. Lots of luck to you

Your Bud
Cowan.

P.S.

Mrs. Finch said tell you she remembered you in her prayers every night a one of her boys.

Rose Mary said hello & lots of love to uncle Jim.