

Fairfax Ala  
April 2, 1945

Dear Jim

I have just got thru sitting out  
my flowers and thought I would  
write you a short letter.

Thank you for the Easter card it  
was very pretty and getting a card  
from James brother was a  
surprise for I did not expect to  
hear from you. After I wrote the  
letter I thought maybe I should  
not have wrote it that you might  
think I was to forward. But any  
way I wrote to you because you  
were James brother and away  
from home doing your duty.  
I hear from Tom about four or  
five times a week and I look  
forward for his letters for it is  
just like having a nice talk with  
him. I am awful worried about  
Tom for he has gone thru so much  
since he had been away. But he  
~~say~~ said he was doing fine.

your dad has bin another car  
w... ..

I am glad he has it for it cost him so much to get a taxi to make his calls.

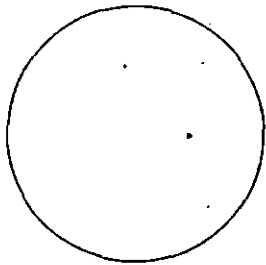
Mr. Still is such a short sleepy little man he comes to see us my uncle and a while doesn't stay long just enough to let us know he thinks off us.

I had the seventh & eight grade teachers over last evening for a game of Back and refreshment I enjoyed them very much I think they enjoyed it as much as I and my girls got a thrill out of seeing I think all mothers should have the teachers in their home to find out how their pupils live and keep their homes I try to make my home as pleasant as I can and make every one who comes into it want to come back. I had a card from Mary & Cora I am glad they have found themselves and glad they are back together both of them are nice people and have a very pretty little girl.

69

My is more of my type of a person  
and I just love her children.  
Well I can't think of any thing I  
rather happen this for this war.  
To get over you and worrying my  
head off and it doesn't do me any  
good. I had company last weekend  
from Atlanta Mr & Mrs Shelby  
Kinney he is playing ball with  
the Crickers and his wife works  
in the post office in Atlanta I guess  
you know Shelby he taught school  
in Lanett his home is here his  
wife & I are very good friends  
I must close as I must scrounge  
up something for supper.  
Take care of your self and write  
when you have time and I can  
~~do~~ excuse this stationery for  
I am out. Sincerely,  
mae.

No. \_\_\_\_\_



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

1st James Still  
35133320, Sgt Hg Sq ADLc  
AAF, APO 606 Postmaster  
Miami Florida

Helen McAfee  
(Sender's name)  
The Yale Review  
(Sender's address)  
New Haven Conn  
April 2 1945  
(Date)

Dear Sergeant Still:

Assuming, as we believe we may, that you are in no hurry for publication we are glad to accept your story The Pattern of a Man for publication in the Yale Review. Kindly notify us of any change in your address, and tell us when you reply a little about your present work. With all good wishes for this work —

Very sincerely yours  
Helen McAfee  
Managing Editor  
Yale Review

V...-MAIL

(To: Hindman, KY)

11455  
Apr 6. Ohio.

Sunday 4:30 P.M.  
[2 Apr 1945]

Dear Jim:

I have been listening to the Easter programs from all over the world today. I thought of you and Tom, and wondered if you were in Easter services some where.

I did not have to work last night. It was the first time in several months.

I had a letter from Ellice this week. They are doing fine. Hervey has had a growth taken off of one of his eyes and is going to have the other one operated on as soon as is possible. Ellice needs to have the same thing done.

I had a letter from Herman Naim; he is in Germany. He said that it was really tough over there and hoped that the war would soon be over so he could get back to his wife + Baby + normal living again.

I haven't heard from papa for a long time. I have just written him a letter. I'm going to write Tom later today. Hope the war will be over soon and you all can come home.

As ever  
Comer

To: H<sub>2</sub> + 12. E. 5th Ave Apt  
APO #6006 c/o P.M.  
Miami, FL

Enclosed to: Hindman, KY  
c/o J. Amberg

3 April, 1945

Dear James,

Your Christmas card finally caught up with me after a series of forwardings. Mail between stations doesn't move too rapidly, as you've discovered. Right now I have no way of knowing whether you are still in ETO. Perhaps you have been lucky enough to get back to Dead More Branch. If not, I hope you are soon scheduled for relief.

Key West was interesting enough and my duties there took me cook's touring through the Caribbean. But it wasn't the heat — it was the sandflies — that made me glad enough to pack and go.

And Key West reminds me of your descriptions of the vegetation there, in one of your earlier letters after River of Earth came out. You should see some of the varieties in these parts. I've found one melon that I'd like to grow in my own garden in Blacksburg.

Have you heard that Katherine Anne Porter is now writing  
in Hollywood? Meanwhile NO SAFE HARBOR has not appeared!  
And Mrs. Julia Wolfe is now in Hollywood where they  
are beginning work on LOOK HOMEWARD ANGEL. That is  
one movie I don't want to see, somehow.

Jean and the kids are still in Blacksburg. When this  
war is over I intend to go back to the mountain and  
sit. Strictly a 20-acre-and-a-mule man.

If this scribble ever catches up with you, I wish  
you'd drop a line and let us know what your  
mental climate is these days.

Sincerely,

---

Dayton Kohler

D. M. Kohler, Lt., USNR  
Staff. Cow Air Base  
C/O F.O.A. San Francisco, Cal.

Italy  
April 3, 1945

Dear Jim

Your letter reached me today,  
and was glad to hear from  
you.

Yes I have been transferred  
to the air corps and have  
been here long enough to  
know that I don't like it  
I'll surely be back in the  
infantry, and if I could sum  
I would do my best to be  
transferred back to the  
infantry too.

Jim you me to tell you  
the action that I was in  
when I got wounded well  
it was about 18 miles north



of Bologna close to a small  
town by the name of Poggiola  
fine I am sending you a  
clipping out of a paper about  
my Regiment. I wish you could  
~~tell me about the actions~~  
that I was in. (I have two  
little stars on my Campaign  
ribbon now)

Buy you must qualify with the  
Springfield M1903 rifle. Well they  
are all O.K. but you would not  
~~see one of these up over the~~  
front lines. I was armed with  
a B.A.R. when I was wounded  
my squadron in the Air  
technical service command.

There isn't my use to apply  
for a parachute back to the

state for a few more years out  
of this outfit every month back  
to the state own rotation.

The 21st of this month I  
will complete my first year  
-----  
mission.

your brother

Tom

P.S. if you don't want to keep  
this clipping send it back to  
me

---

# FAIRFAX, SHAWMUT SOLDIERS FIGHT WITH FAMOUS 363rd

With the Fifth Army, Italy—Thomas W. Still, of Fairfax, and David Colley, of Shawmut, are fighting with the 363rd Infantry Regiment in the current Florence-Bologna offensive in Italy. The regiment is part of the 91st "Powder River" Division with Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army.

The 363rd entered combat in Italy last July 4 north of the Cecina River on the right flank of the 34th "Red Bull" Division, to which it was then attached.

The regiment rejoined the 91st Infantry Division south of Chianni, where it experienced one of its roughest battles. A battalion of the 363rd captured Hill 634, four miles southwest of Chianni, and repelled a number

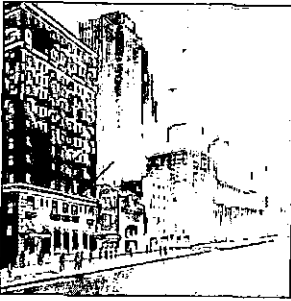
of savage enemy counterattacks in hand-to-hand fighting. The rockiness of the hill made it impossible for the doughboys to dig in sufficiently to withstand a highly concentrated artillery and mortar assault that followed, but, after withdrawing slightly, the outfit returned and retook the hill.

## Leghorn Engagement

During the night of July 17 the 363rd, as the infantry element of a task force attached to the 34th Division, moved in to position southeast of Leghorn. The next morning the 363rd shifted its strength to the northeast corner of the seaport, maneuvering with support of tanks and tank destroyers. That night

one of the infantry regiment's battalions fought its way through the northern districts of the city itself to be the first American troops to enter the city.

The 363rd next broke across the canal north of Leghorn and occupied the coastal sector from the port city to Pisa, one of its battalions entering the city before dawn July 24 and another one reaching the city of the Leaning Tower that night. The 363rd returned to the control of the 91st Division after holding that part of Pisa south of the Arno for four days. The regiment was on Fifth Army's right flank, fighting as a unit of the 91st Division, when it went in to action again.



ADJACENT TO RADIO CITY

# Hotel Bristol

129-135 WEST 48<sup>TH</sup> STREET

New York 19, N. Y.

BRYANT 9-8400

April 5, 1945

Dear Friend James -

I have wondered and wondered and wondered, ever since you came to tell me goodbye - was it three years ago? - if you would ever drop me a note to indicate that in the midst of Everything you thought of me once in a while. You'd say I haven't proved my thinking of you! ... Well, today at the Viking Press I got the address I am using on this letter, and I shall fervently hope you'll be prompted to respond --

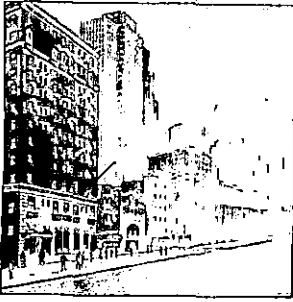
I've had a tender feeling for the Viking Press because of RIVER OF EARTH; and so I gave them a chance at my novel. But they didn't like it. They didn't care to discuss it with me - just said it wasn't well written. It hurt - yes, it hurts like everything, after loving my hero all these months and re-working and re-writing and improving, as I thought, until I thought I had made him and his friends and his inner and outer life fascinating, to be told it's no good. He's telling me I'm no good... I've worked evenings (i.e. nights) on it for over a year now, after spending full days on my bibliography of bibliographies in religion. March-July in the library of Congress; six weeks at Harvard; seven weeks at Yale; some days at Columbia and a lot of other libraries... then back to Washington

in the fall, and dug in at the Library of Congress I could spend ten-twenty-thirty years on it and still not make it too good. But I have decided to round up all the material on which I have notes and get it published as soon as possible, realizing that a "second, completely revised and greatly improved edition" may be called for ten years later. If I settle in a big library where I can keep in touch with publication I could be constantly at work on that 2d ed.

If my novel would bring me good money, I might use some of it for this scholarly research OR, if the novel succeeds, I might write the six others that are clamoring to be born - and ~~that would about take care of the rest of my~~

"active" day... .. Are you wondering what I have done about my family? They stayed in Berea till September, then sold our house and most of our possessions, retaining the rest, and then came to Washington and took a tiny furnished house (miraculously falling our way) and made a new "home" for me. John we sent to a private school near Philadelphia, a grand school, a glorious opportunity; he gets home about once a month... Ted attends a grade school near home. Both boys grow and develop wonderfully... And Mrs B keeps busy; instead of taking a job away from home, she "takes in sewing" at home; is thus there to look after Ted when he gets home from school and

~~when he's sick; and, incidentally, just about~~ supports us, so far as current needs are concerned, whereas we dig into our principal for insurance premiums, trips to New York, and all sorts of extras - so much so that funds are fast melting away and I'm looking around for a good job... Trips to NY I don't count as luxuries; they're part of the cost of getting my novel launched. In desperation today I let the Viking people refer me to an agent who will read the MS and either tell me it's hopeless (no charge for that) or coach me in ~~... ..~~ market it and accept



# Hotel Bristol

129-135 WEST 48<sup>TH</sup> STREET

New York 19, N.Y.

BRYANT 9-8400

ADJACENT TO RADIO CITY

one tenth of the royalties. You never had to accept such humiliating bargains ... .. On this NY trip I've spent two days in NY Public Library, Union Theological Seminary, etc, taking notes on some bibliographies, copies of which aren't to be found elsewhere. And tonight I passed up all the tempting shows, to soak in my tub and sit on my bed and write to you... The glamor of NY always gets me. I long for my wife to walk the streets and window-shop with me. I'd like to have you in the City - but we'd cut a queer figure on the streets together, young, goodlooking, short you and aged, gawky me. So, I'll just send our spirit in and out in the crowds and on park benches - my! I'd almost be willing to join the army if we could be buddies...

Some day I may tell you why I left Berea. The main reason was to get these books written. The secondary one is because I was fed up with it. But this part shouldn't be put into a letter.

Now, if you find yourself in Washington, be sure to look me up. I'm in the phone book. Meantime, before I move to Timbuktu, I wish you'd use the address below.

Yours,

John Barrow

315 Willard Ave  
Cherry Chase 15  
Maryland

# THE AUTHORS' LEAGUE OF AMERICA, Inc.

THE AUTHORS' GUILD • SIX EAST THIRTY NINTH STREET • NEW YORK 16, N. Y. • TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5-6930

April 5, 1945

Mr. James Still  
Dead Mare Branch  
Littcarr, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Still:

No matter what medium a piece of writing is originally intended for, there are from six to twelve other possible markets for it--potential sources of secondary income.

No one writer, single-handed, can effectively protect his interests in all markets--book, magazine, movies, radio, television, second serial, reprint, foreign, others. For that an organization is imperative. The organization exists: The Authors' League of America.

The organization needs you, and you need it. We urge you to join, now.

Sincerely,



President

*Rex Stout*  
For the Council

*Mignon G. Eberhart*  
For the Admissions Committee

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S. J. PERELMAN for C. S. FORESTER

11 April 45

Dear Jim,

I just thought I would stick in this note along with the Who "at s" to let you know that we are getting along very well. That is except for Pompa, he fell the other day and broke his arm, so was in the hospital for three or four days, but he is up and around now - on qrs. He comes in now and then to see what is cooking.

A few new things that the papers won't tell about: The rest of the men have been strfd up the line, so we were busy with their records for a while, but have finished now.

We have a new colonel as of today. His name is Moore; O'Keefe is going up to tell Wilhelm, Arndt, Deshler and the gang how to run their business.

We heard from Powers. He is there in Ky in a hospital. He said he is feeling much better and that he expected to stay there about six weeks. He was waiting for his wife to join him there.

Bliss is still gone on furlough, but should be back some dayssoon. \* And by the way Pompa will be going on furlough as soon as his arm is well enough so he can travel.

I don't want to bother you with the little things of APO 606, will let you concentrate on the good things of America instead.

Sincerely,

*Hut* [?]

[To: c/o Jethro Amburger  
Hindman, KY]



GUY LOOMIS

P. O. BOX 98

BROOKLYN 1, N. Y.

April 12, 1946.

Dear Jimmy:

Your air mail letter with the great good news came this morning and Mr. Loomis has asked me to tell you how glad he is and that he appreciates your sending him the confidential advance notice. We are all delighted and I feel sure it will be a great relief to you to have this year free to work as you please. I'm so happy about it and will watch for the announcements and send them to you.

I have meant to write you to send you the enclosed reviews from the New York Sun, and the Tribune book review, of Jesse Stuart's latest book. It seems to me that both give him respectful attention but not much admiration. I have not read the book, but hope to soon.

Mr. Loomis' eye is coming on nicely, but his glasses have bothered him and he has been inclined to go without them in walking about because they made him dizzy. Now the oculist has told him that he must wear them constantly so that he will become used to them, and it is rather a trial. Otherwise he is fine, but we have had rather a bad time here in the office because Mr. Balmano had a nervous break which left him in a miserable condition with a bad neuritis in his right hand and general debility. He is improving and comes to the office part of each day and I hope will be all right. I thought of you the other day when my doctor told me I had "hyper tension" and that I must let down. I hope you got rid of yours.

It is too bad that Florida was so uncomfortably crowded this year, so that you could not get as much out of your stay as you might have done. I had a lady tell me the other day that she had just come back and that she never had seen such high prices, such jewels and furs and so much gambling in all the years she had been going there. We are living through a strange time it seems. New York, and Brooklyn too, are so overcrowded, busses and cars overloaded, and the people seem like a new order - noisy surly and discourteous. I should like to get at least a hundred miles from this city, where perhaps people are different.

We are still having cold and windy weather, the spring shrubs in bloom and the leaves coming out, but no warmth in the sun as yet. Probably your spring has passed by now. It has always been one of my dreams that some spring I may start from Florida, by car, and follow the springtime - to Canada perhaps, moving along with the first blossoms. Nice to dream about anyway.

All good wishes,

Sincerely,

*Dorothy D. Mount*  
[Dorothy D. Mount]

P.S. I thought you said your story would be in the April American Mercury, but do not find it. Have we missed it, or has it not yet come out?

ACCRA, GOLD COAST  
BRITISH WEST AFRICA  
14 APRIL 1945

Dear Jim,

I am overloaded with neither news nor gossip so this will likely be very brief. I first thought I would send just the Who Date this time and write something next time. After a moment of thinking on the subject, I decided I would write a wee bit.

The Group was to take part in a Memorial Service for the late Franklin D. Roosevelt this afternoon at Base, but at the last hour it was changed to the 15th. Since it will be held at 0900 hours in the morning, I will be doing the Morning Report. Had it been this afternoon, I very likely would have attended for we are not so very busy. Junior D. and Jonsie are doing the pay rolls, so they were excused from the service this afternoon. I haven't heard them say whether or not they intend going in the morning.

The new Colonel arrived a day or two ago. Dallas Stephens and James K. Davidson have returned from the home land. We can no longer buy beer at the PX. The movies have been terrible the past week. All the men, with the exception of a couple, have gone up the line. Don (The big Brush) Emery evidently is still quite adept at rumor spreading, judging from some rumors that Hughes just brought in at one o'clock. I think that about takes care of the local happenings, Still. If I have missed a few items, they will be included in the next note.

Bliss is still away. We are looking for him to drop in anytime. This old Personnel Office is very quiet this afternoon. About the only noise, now that Hughes and Vaccari have settled down behind their desks, is the tap, tap, tapping of the typewriters in the pay roll section.

Jim, I finally received the letter you wrote to me while I was home. I really got a bang out of it. I only wish I could write one to you as interesting as it was. I didn't see a single Tennessee Walking Horse while I was back there, but I did slap a few old plug work horses on the hiney.

Well James, I can't think of anything even a little bit interesting, so I shall ring off and hope to do better next time.

Best wishes for a wonderful time while you are back there from all the gang.

Bye now,

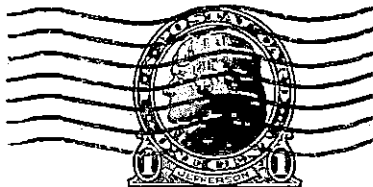
*Jim*  
(Cunningham)

4/17/45

We shall be here in our mountain home six miles west of Newport until May 20<sup>th</sup>, when we are going on our first vacation trip in four years. So anytime during the next few weeks we shall be expecting your family and Jim Still and any friends to occupy our spare bedrooms and wake the Tennessee hills with your music. If we happen to be in Asheville visiting Wilma's mother for a day or two, just keep on driving and Bro. Still knows the way there, four miles north of Asheville.

— James Stokely

James Stokely  
RFD 1  
Newport, Tenn.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Jethro Amburgey  
Hindman, Ky.

R.F.D.  
Newport, Tenn.  
4/17/45

Jim Still:

How flows the troublesome tide of mortal dust,  
hounded by time and bounded by space beyond the mountain  
Do still waters still run deeper than most? Is the  
old stone boat still reliable? Are there any leaks  
in the logic of heaven?

How goes the universal scholar, from  
lean horizon of Middle Fork to earth's far end? Curves  
with space, did he play hard-head or swallow  
a patch of lie-tales? Is the hill of enduring  
truth still uncharted? Does the living day stand?

Wilma and I are happy that you have  
read the language of direction, have passed through  
the immense pattern, have come back to the low  
way around, the far between, the slow arrival,  
the quiet peace, the warm place of home  
Or were you already near the equator?

How many storms have you ridden  
with no ending on roads unarriving? How  
many belts buckled against the universe?  
How many wild thoughts screaming the  
tongue unspoken? How many Daughters of  
Nepetete reminding you of sweet apples  
from high green orchards? Did Justice gladden

spare apple spray gasoline tickets; since our hearts, as well as most of our blossoms are still heavy with the frost of April 7th. Looks like we'll have to invoke, grub and cultivate other muses for harvest. — Jim Stokely

your summer's plowing? Tell us of the journey beyond the hills. Better still, bring the good news yourself, and friends with you.

We drove through your country ten days ago on the way to Berea and a visit with a girl at Fairchild Hall you should cultivate in private, Lois Bassett. Met William Hale, father of Elijah Benton, with team and plow along the Hindman road, who said yes, he knew Jimmy Still, had known him since he was a boy, was indeed a fine lad who was too still and quiet and full of sense to ever get married, had a yard full of blossom-bushes somewhere up on dead man's branch, had heard sometime ago he was printing some books, had never read any of them himself but knew they must be good books if Jimmy Still was printing them, was over somewhere in Africa now but hoped he would come back home soon [with a Congo maiden].

Also met Jethro Amburgey, the Dulcimeter, at the Courthouse, who told us you were coming home soon, and promised, in good faith, we believe, to drive his wife and you and your companion down to our orchard here in the English Mountains near Newport to anchor your wings during whippoorwill winter. We have a windfall of

7 at night April 21  
1945

Dear Jim - Hope your neighbors have a  
lettuce patch you can rob or that  
you can forage for some fake greens for  
I'm coming over to see you Monday April  
20th so I want to put my name in ~~the~~ pot  
for some grub

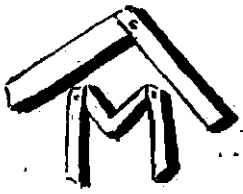
I'll come down from Berea Sunday to Hindman  
get back about 4 P.M. then I'll take that early morning  
bus leaves Hindman at 5:45 A.M. they say to Vicks & get off  
the nearest point to you. I guess that'll be it & walk  
in to Deal Mine - that's on Monday April 20th.

If for any reason this date is not satisfactory  
please let me know at Berea. I'll probably go down  
to Hindman anyway but I'd appreciate knowing that  
it's all right.

I've seen Miss Wall & Miss Standish this weekend at Deal  
Robinson & they said you had to make a trip to D. S.  
Hope this date won't conflict.

Just so there won't be any hitch I've asked Miss  
Standish to see ~~the~~ lettuce to try to get a message thru  
to you that way in case you don't get your mail  
at Hindman regularly.

How glad I am that you can have some  
solitary days & truly I could bear up if you had  
just that & no company at all. But there's life in  
I love



24 APR 45

Dear Jim:

I imagine you're about as surprised to hear from me as I find myself writing this letter - if that's what you can call it. Don't expect much.

I'll tell you what's happened to me since I left Miami. Got to Fort Dix about 6 p.m. Saturday and was out about the same time Sunday. Met Ruth in Philly and it was swell to be with her again. Steve is and I dread the day I have to leave again.

We stayed in Philly until Wednesday & then took off for New York. We had a very nice time there during our six day stay - having some good food, seeing a couple shows & one play - "The Voice of the Turtle" (very good) dancing & eating more good food. Saw Geo Schlobahin's wife & spent an evening & another afternoon with her.

Came up to this place a week ago - the 17th - and we're having a wonderful time - (over)





192

We came up here & stayed in the city so we'd have some time alone - cause once I get home both families won't give us too much time alone. We have one more week here & will go home about May first.

I have to report back to Dix on May 24 - which will give me about 23 days at home. Have been doing a lot of riding - horseback - and taking it easy.

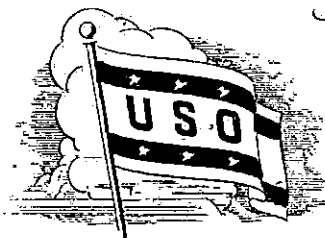
I had a dream that I saw you in New York last nite - don't know why but there you were.

Guess we'll be hitting Miami around the same time. I don't have to tell you to have a good time because I know you are making good use of every minute.

Let's hear from you soon. Say hello to Timothy. Be seeing you.

As ever

Salu



(From: [unclear]  
Los Angeles, CA)

(26 Apr 1945)

(To: Hindman, KY)

DEAR JIM:

JUST A LINE TO SAY I AM IN  
MIAMI -- ON MY WAY HOME FOR  
21 DAY FURLOUGH.

THE 8<sup>TH</sup> HAS BEEN DEACTIVATED  
AND I, AMONG THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TO LEAVE

OUR NEW ADDRESS WILL BE  
MORRISON FLD - WEST PALM BEACH -

WE HEARD IT RUMORED THAT  
THOSE ON 45 DAY FURLOUGHS MIGHT  
BE SENT TO CAIRO IF THEY ARE  
WANTED THERE.. HOWEVER I  
HOPE TO SEE YOU AT MORRISON -

WE MISSED YOU, ESPECIALLY  
AT BEER TIME."

REGARDS -

JIM. [Hakes]

28 APR 45

Dear Jim:

Don't be so surprised at hearing from me so soon because this will be very short.

Saw a movie last nite I thought you would like to see if you get a chance. "A Song to Remember" is about the life of Chopin and they play a lot of his music throughout.

I'll be home from May 1 till I have to report back May 24 so let's hear from you.

As ever

John