

May 2, 1945

Dear Jimmie;-

I know this may never catch up with you, but just in case it does, I should like to tell you the little apartment at Mountain Home failed to come through. A letter came on Friday saying I might have it. I waited until Monday to answer and some one else sent their money in ahead. Soooooo?

If you should know of a place in Kentucky where I could live during the summer I should be glad. I don't care what kind of a place it is, just so I can get away from the heat and crowds.

Do you know about asparagus? Do you like it and have you any planted? It is my favorite vegetable and it is one whole dollar a bunch here. Only 19 stalks to a bunch too. Water melons are \$4.50 for a medium size and six for a large one. I saw some sailors sitting on the sidewalk eating one the other day. Dried peaches, apricots, and pears are from 95¢ to 1.50 a pound. I remember when you kids turned up your noses at such common fare. I often think of Hatfield too who hoped I would be reduced to eating salmon that I fed the dogs. Well he got his wish. I had salmon and egg salad last night and liked it. I have no points you see for meat so I get a pound can of salmon for only 6 points. The small reminded me of Gretel and the mess of Quaker Oats I used to make for her and her family. It was fun though and I miss having a dog.

By the calendar it is only two weeks until you will be back to the land of sunshine again. In one way, a very selfish way I hope they do send you back because I want to see you some more, but if they send you to Asheville it may be a better climate for a set up. However I hope they do not send you to the Pacific. I really do.

Do you ever have worn or even new parachutes that are not safe to use? Practically everyone I know has been able to buy one. They make underwear and all kinds of nice things of them. As they are made of nylon and pure silk they are most desirable. After each inspection there are some discarded ones and these are sold for very little to army families.

Well anyway I shall be looking for you in a very short time. I hope the vacation is going well.

As ever,

J. Q.

(Tris Grannis?)

OFFICE OF THE
EDITOR



8 ARLINGTON STREET
BOSTON 16

The Atlantic Monthly

2 May, 1945.

Dear Mr. Still:—

Thank you so much for returning your proofs so promptly. I quite agree with you that "Mrs. Razor" should not be published with any military connotation. It is a charming piece of writing, and we all look forward to its appearance in the July Atlantic.

Yours sincerely,

Edwina Weeks

T/Sgt. James Still, 35133320,
Hq. and Hq. Sq. 8th ADG. A.A.F.,
APO 606, c/o Postmaster,
Miami,
Florida.

Read back page first

2 May 1945

Dear Jim

Have a little news to pass along to you--not knowing how much you will benefit by it and probably get in a nervous condition as I am now.

Received a letter a couple minutes ago from George Schlobahn's wife saying George had written but most of it was cut out by the censor. He'll say he was the happiest guy in the world and only one thing would make him feel this way--meaning he was returning home.

~~Capt. Willie had called the crew together--saying they had to work that Sunday. He also said something about getting in touch with some one--which may have been me--but so far I've heard nothing more.~~

Schlobahn also suggested in I get in touch with (censored) and then said you possibly can as he (censored). The only thing that could mean would be Blomberg as he's in the States here.

I tried to call Glen person to person a few minutes ago but nobody answered and I'll keep trying to put the call through all night and see what I can find out. I'll hold this letter in case there's anymore good news to give you if I contact Glen.

It sounds to me Jim as though the whole group is heading back this way. Last night I also got a letter from another fellow in the group which didn't say much but that some thing big was bound to break soon & he might not see me when I got back.

If such is the case--about the group returning--we're bound to get word of some sort--to remain in the States and join the group at a certain point. I'm sure we wouldn't be sent back there if the info is correct.

Excuse the typing and the letter because I'm too damned excited to be any good for anything right now. In case you've heard anything be sure to let me know. I'll stop now and let you know what I find out from Glen soon as I contact him.

Over

Just got in touch with Glen and have some good news for you. The whole group is returning and evidently that whole place is folding up. Once we get to Miami, we will most likely be sent over to Morrison Field, West Palm Beach. At least that's what Rankin told Glen will happen. Then of course you might have also received a letter from Rankin yourself and know more about it than I do. Let me hear from you immediately also letting me know what date you have to report back from your 15 days. I must report to Dix May 24 and we should get into Miami around the same time.

Guess this will be all for now. Wonderful news don't you think?

Be sure and write me.

As ever,

Jahn

Y.M.C.A.
1736 G Street NW
Washington D.C.
May 6, 1945

Dear Jim,

Was a real pleasure to receive your letter after these years, except for the fact you did not spell my name correctly. I try to be accurate in all things, and I think everybody should be. Even such a paper as the New York Times once made such a typographical error, but has corrected it since in all ^{subsequent} dealings I have had with it. To err is human, to forgive is divine. Possibly the greatest misfortune of our civilization is that there is ~~not~~ enough divinity in human souls.

My enterprise in the publishing world has been of such limited nature that as yet it has been exclusively of a philanthropic nature. I do ~~not~~ expect ^{possibly} some future ^{for it} as a going business ~~and as a~~ self-sustaining enterprise. ~~It~~

Haven't had a chance to steep myself in your latest poem, but shall at the earliest opportunity, and anticipate great pleasure in your next stories when they appear.

Have I told you how much I enjoyed your River of Earth?

The army seems to have stimulated you since judging from your new

productivity, that is in your leisure time. Leisure or a degree of solitude is virtually necessary for creative work.

As I assume you gathered from my recent letter that I have duties that keep me very busy in Washington most of the time, and I actually have not very much time to give just now to my business interests.

When you return to foreign duty why don't you route yourself via Washington, letting me know in advance and we shall be sure to see each other, as I couldn't inform you definitely just now when I shall be in NYC again.

Just received a letter from Mabel Betts of Ottawa, ^{Canada} whom no doubt you remember from our Breadloaf association. She is going to spend the week of June 6-12th in NYC. I doubt if I shall be able to see her, but if you should chance to be passing abroad via NYC at that time possibly we could all get together.

Anyway, let me know your plans.

Sincerely,

Freeland J. Penney

1/Sgt James Still,
Hindman,
Kentucky

my misstatements -
Don't know where Ell, located
a Virginia Realty with
your firm. Berea no longer
has it on the shelves.

I read Richard Wright's
"Black Boy" on the way home
yesterday it stirred me mightily.
I'd like to know where

Yesterday I just about hit
bottom for a little while
when I got the news that Dr.
Coltrane who was supposed
to come to be Executive of the
Conference June 1st had decided
to stay on at Brevard College
after resigning twice since
since Jan. I finally began
to come up out of my trough
of discouragement when I
realized that it was

Waynesville, N.C.
May 9, 1945

Dear Tim - I hope you didn't
return to the bus station to
see me off on that later bus
I found the white guy
at that first stop, saw the
I had four minutes to make
the 4:30 bus and away I went
It seemed ~~we~~ had said
just about all that we
could that day anyway.

I don't know when we
ever had such a satisfactory
visit taking the two days
together. It seems I could
let long days pile up with
say a word from you and
still be content. To be sure
I shouldn't admit it for
you need absolutely no

encouragement in that
direction.

Oh there are stacks of
things I've wished I'd talked
to you about. It wasn't the
fact I was so interested together
but it was how you felt
about it all.

It meant much to see how
you'd grown up emotionally
with a certain steadiness and
sureness, a positive attitude
towards things that I liked
with still plenty of that
elusive quirk about you
that kept a fellow from
ever quite putting a finger on
you — that I hope you'll
always keep.

I'd love to know how
these latter days of the

fortnight have gone. I'd been
be willing to a regard a guess
that you could almost take
a night alone in the cabin
on Dead Mare with relish
upon your return from
Louisville & Lexington. For you
were settling into your living
where you were better by the
day than I thought you
could that first day I saw
you.

No, not that I would want you
to return to your old ways if
you could for some of the better
things I saw about you was
your natural acceptance of life
that was not always so.
But there, it isn't fair to go
on in that vein when you aren't
here to interrupt & check on

probably good riddance for
never in this world could
I get along with a man who
didn't know his mind
better than that.

Jim, do let me know
whether the old army address
holds good & even a post
card scratch to let me
know what part of the
glue you're on.

Ever yours
Marie



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES Sgt H C Powers, 35428352
Det Of Patients,
AAF Conv. Hospital,
Ft Thomas, Kentucky
May 11, 1945

Hello Jim,

With time marching on, I believe that a note to you is in order. By waiting longer, it might mean getting behind on your location and address. What do you think about it?

The coming of V-E day and announcement of point values on our Adjusted Service Rating card looms ahead of all else to talk about. Like everyone else, we as individuals, can appreciate the importance of V-E for that gives us a clearer picture of what is ahead. Impartial as the ASR has been set up, I imagine that George Schlobom can speak my mind without filling up paper. At any rate I have been thinking of remarks that were made during your coffee hour this morning.

Alex Lippitt wrote to me a short time ago saying some things had been changed and mentioned that several wild rumors had been floating around--without naming any of course. Naturally, I'll be interested in news of changes that take place. Colonel O'Keefe must have been even softer than myself noting the length of time he spent there and on hunting trips.

Well Jim, the trip back was fine in spite of nervous tension I was under while flying, and the ground at Miami tasted sweet. During my three-day stay there, I saw Stobaugh, a different looking man from the one he was at Accra. On refusing a discharge he was given six months sub standard duty, during which time he has proceeded to patch up trouble with his wife. From there, I came directly to your beautiful Bluegrass state and found myself in back where starting from three years back. After some hard PLEADING, a 15 day furlough came through, and I went home to find everything going well. It was grand for some nervous spells that interrupted. I'm still just under observation and taking no treatment except attending hobby, academic and vocational classes that are supposed to bring me back to normal shortly. The GI US is prevalent as is to be expected though convalescent are not dealt with very rough. To offset some of it, we can go to Cincinnati or Covington every night, and the week end pass starts at noon Saturday. Also, I have been making several day trips of interest to business houses, brewerys, etc. in Cincinnati besides

having my wife down here a week. I'll have her here again when her school is out in only a few days. See, it is still indefinite how long I am to be here. If and when I go back to duty, it will mean going through an AAF Redistribution Center in Atlantic City, N. J. By the way, I have put on 18 pounds of flesh since leaving Accra-faster than the rate of losing it.

Jim, that is about all I have of personal news and gripes. All of it must be nearly as monotonous as weather comment anyhow, but I should like a letter from you any time you care to write, because in appreciation of your acquaintance it is of interest to know ^{how} things turn out for you.

Tell all the fellows hello for me and take it easy.

Sincerely,
Robert

THE
NEW YORKER

No. 25 WEST 43RD STREET



BRYANT 9-8200

May 14, 1945

Dear Sgt. Still:

I'm sorry the decision on "The
Factory Tree" was no, though we enjoyed
seeing it. We hope you'll have more
verse to send us.

Sincerely yours,

Peter De Vries
Peter De Vries

T/Sgt. James Still, 35133320
Hq & Hq Sq, 8th ADG AAF
APO #606, c/o PM, Miami, Fla.

[To: West Point, GA]

Knott County Board Of Education

JETHRO AMBURGEY
SUPERINTENDENT

HINDMAN, KENTUCKY

BOARD MEETS:
FIRST MONDAY
EACH MONTH

May 31, 1945

Dear Jim

Received your letter today, kindly worried
at so long in hearing from you.

I imagine you are having it a little
tough because of uncertainty.

Dania has not arrived back home
yet. Morris is scheduled to be transferred but
have not been yet, I have not had a letter
from Rena in three days, I suppose she is
on the home. I will be glad to see her.
My son is going to the dogs

Jethro