

Mr. Yacko A.S.  
U.S.N. J.S.  
Co. 438  
Sampson, N.Y.  
Fri Jan. 1, 43

Hi Lee,

Good to hear from you and get the men's side of the news. Well things are about the same here. I'm sitting along side of the swimming pool now writing this letter. I've got charge of the crew that cleans up around here. Nice going, I put them to work and I sit down and write letters. I've been in swimming every day this week. Its snowing and cold outside and here we are swimming.

I don't know for sure just when I will be home. They change their minds so often here that I'm liable to leave anytime. Some of our fellows are going to a Pharmaceutics mate's school in San Diego, Calif. They just opened this new school and I guess that they need quite a few of them. I put down for a

(1)

machinist mate so I don't know when there will be any opening in that.

We seem to have all the training that they're going to give us. Because all we do is hang around and just wait for the schools to open.

The chow is swell so far. We had everything from soup to nuts for Xmas. I tried to get home but the quota was full So I was out of luck. But I hope to be getting a liberty soon so I'll try to come home then.

I see Joe Marko quite often and he looks about the same. I hope they didn't make you work too hard for Xmas.

Say hello to Jean and the rest of the family. And I hope to see you soon.

Your old Pal  
Caisco

(2)

M. Yacko 7 8/c  
Co 9 Sec 1 Bil 051  
Naval Training Sch.  
Richmond, Va.  
Tues. Mar. 23, '43

Dear Leo,

It's sure good to hear from you and get the low down on things from the old home town. I did get something from you last week and couldn't imagine what it was. I was going to mail it right back to you. But I was quite busy over the weekend. Agnes came down to see me for three days and I didn't have time to write. So, I'm mailing it back now.

Well we had graduation Monday night. But we didn't get our ratings yet. It might be sometime this week. And we're suppose to be sent out. So, I don't know yet if I'm going home yet or if I'm going to another base. But I'm hoping I can get home for a few days.

There's not much of anything new around here. I'm glad to hear that you haven't been called yet. You're not missing much. I suppose you'll get enough of it soon enough. I'm hoping that I see you again before you leave for the service. I see by the papers we're the boys from town are really leaving.  
(1)

From what you say the boys must be getting banged up pretty good. What ever happened to Bailey?

Sure, glad to hear that Prof. is still around kicking. I didn't know that he was suppose to get a job in W.N.B.F. I thought that he was supposed to go out of town some place to work.

I'm glad to hear that you're still sticking to your special work. I hear that George Marko went to work in Links. I wonder how he likes it after working in the barber shop after all these years. I must certainly be quite a change for him. What's he doing up there? Do you know?

Be sure to tell Jean that I said hello to her and the rest of the Skorko family. And I hope to see you soon Leo, so keep the home fires burning.

Your old buddy

Crisko

(2)

Saturday May 8, 1943

My Darling,

I just got your letters and application and I just had to drop everything and answer you right away. I miss you an awful lot although I am trying very hard to be brave the way you want me to be. I kiss your picture every night before I go to bed. Anne's been sleeping in your bed keeping me company.

Last night we went to the show to see, "Gone with the Wind" and tonight Marie and I are going to the Capitol. She and I wanting for you guys to get settled so we can come down to see you. I'm ready to quit my job any day now just so I could be with you.

I had a very nice dream about you last night, in fact every night since you left. You know what a dreamer I am.

(1)

I'm not worrying too much about how you are getting along because I know you will make the best of it. If only we could be together. Mamie is taking it very good so don't worry too much about your family.

Nick Suretana is stationed in Atlantic City. I only worked a half day yesterday so I stopped down to Helen's house.

You got a letter from the Fire Dept. about accepting a job at \$40 a week. They would like to see you within a few days. Do you think you can make it?

I have to answer it and state a reason why you can't accept.

I love you very much and miss you. I am going up town this after to have my picture taken. I will send it as soon as I can.

I just can't think of anymore to write. All I want to write is I love a million times but I don't want you to laugh at me. God bless you and I'll be praying to see you soon.

xxx

Love your loving wife

Jean

(2)

Sunday, May 9, 1943 10:30 a.m.

My Darling Husband,

Well today is Sunday. I am getting ready to go to church. I have a half an hour before the next mass so I wanted to write you.

I gave my Mother and yours some money for Mother's Day. I didn't know what to buy for them. They seem to have everything.

Darling I dreamt of you last night again, you were making love to me all night. I miss you sweet.

Marie, Anne and I went to Lovey's brother's wedding last night after the movie, they ha quite any affair.

You know I love you. I really don't have any desire to go anywhere without you.

(1)

Well I must get dressed now.

Darling, I'll write every day. God bless you and keep you safe for me.

I love you xxxxxxxx

Your loving wife,

Jean

P.S. Enclosing the letter from E.J. Everyone says hello to you.

(2)

May 12, 1943

Dear Leo:

Got your letter ok & am glad you like your new camp. I expect when you start your Basic it will be a lot tougher. But I guess you can take it. How does it feel to get away from E.J. for a change? I hope when you get back you can get something different.

Everybody and his brother are flocking into the office getting money for income tax. I guess people will borrow forever. Ill be glad when the 15<sup>th</sup> is over.

Last Sunday our cat got 4 kittens The kids are going to be awfully surprised some day when all 5 are  
(1)

missing. One cat is bad enough but when they start hanging around by the dozen, then it's time to get rid of all of them.

Cork goes on a Camporee on the 18<sup>th</sup>. They (scouts) take all their equipment, grub bedding and camp out over nite. About a couple hundred of them. The following day they try to pass tests for different merit badges. Cork is a second-class scout and is working to become a first class. They are supposed to do their own cooking. I imagine it must taste lousy with 200 kids getting their 2cents in. The last 3-day overnite hike they took lasted 1 day. They started Fri. intending to stay 3 days & came back  
(2)

Saturday nite at 9 o'clock pooped.

Molly is still a Brownie & they have camp 2 days a week du ring July & Aug. That is free except for food which they are to bring to cook. It must be a nasty mess for the supervisors.

We got a letter from Bill. He is still in New Orleans but expects to go out around July 1<sup>st</sup>. That means overseas somewhere I suppose. He was C.O. for a couple of weeks while the bigger shits were on furlough. Sometimes I feel sorry for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Louys. There are more of them than the Regular Army. Well I'll close having nothing else to tell you.

Love & kisses

Billee

(3)

Tuesday, May 11, 1943

My Darling,

Remember when you were home, I said I couldn't wait till I got home from work just so I could see you. Well, now, it's like that because I'm so anxious to see if I get any mail.

It makes me feel so good when I read your letters. It seems to take away that lonesome feeling.

I worked till four o'clock today. We have a little more work now. I'm glad because it keeps me pretty busy.

I feel very proud of you darling for some reason. You know I trust you and have faith in you so be a good soldier.

I've been doing a lot of visiting lately just to kill time. It helps a lot.

You're probably anxious to get

(1)

out of Fort Niagara. Don't they keep you very busy?

I keep in touch with Marie. We seem to have a lot to talk about.

I'm enclosing those affidavits. Billy filled them out for me. Everyone asks me how you like it so far.

Everyone is feeling quite well in the family. Freddie hasn't bothered me lately. I guess it's because I treated him too cold.

Well, well, I better close for now. Will save some news for tomorrow. God bless you, I love you, I love you, I love you.

xxxxx

Your loving wife

Jean

(2)

Tuesday, May 11, 1943

My Darling Husband,

I wrote you one letter but I forgot to enclose these affidavits.

I seem to be so busy lately. I don't know where the time goes. I miss you a lot.

I didn't realize how much you spoiled me when you were home. I always depended on you for everything. Now if I want anything done I have to do it myself. I'm getting used to putting the car in the garage and getting up a little earlier morning now. Not that I like it, but I have to.

Well honey, I think I'll run down to my Mother's for a little while tonight. I have a little ironing to do but I guess it will wait.

Is it cold at Fort Niagara? It's

(1)

been raining here all week.

It seems as though you have been away for months now.

I have a feeling this war will be over within not time and that you will be coming home soon.

I love you and will say goodnight for now.

xxxxxxxxxx

Your loving wife  
Jean

P.S. Leon is somewhere in Virginia. I will send his address as soon as I get it. Mamie is feeling fine. She says for me to say Hello for her.

(2)

May 12, 1943

Hi there Appleblossom

This is little Buttercup signing on.

How are you? And how is army life?

Today is really lovely rainy day. This letter is only a drizzle from that shower.

Have you seen the kitchen yet or any of those big brown potato eyes staring (or has got two r's) up at you? I hope not. In case you ever should get dishpan hands, just consult me and will give you the details on how to get your hands lily-white again. After all you know Duz, does everything.

Your letter was sadly neglected. I hope you will forgive me.

-1- (on tother page)

(1)

I went to the store as usual on Saturday, and everything was fine only for one thing, my little Appleblossom was missing. Believe me we miss you.

Well, I must close for now, hoping you are in the best of health. Hope you don't think me too silly, I'll know you won't think me silly if you answer my letter.

Signing off,

Buttercup,

(Roberta Koenig)

(2)



Thursday May 13, 1943

My Darling,

Well it's raining again. We haven't had a chance to plant our Victory garden yet. By the looks of the weather it's more like fall.

I hope you didn't catch cold after marching in the rain. They have a nerve not to give you an umbrella.

We had an air raid the other night. It lasted about an hour and guess what, I wasn't a bit scared. All of a sudden, I became very brave.

Renee is going to take me out to get some gas. I hope I get it.

I will send your shaving kit later after you get more settled. I don't think you need all that stuff in Fort Niagara.

Mamie sends you her love, and I love you too. Do you still love me? I know you do but a gal just likes to have it told to her. I'm saving all my love for you till I see you. I wouldn't dare

(1)

have any one read this letter!

I been seeing more movies lately. I guess you have too according to your letters.

Bobby Kocik passed his mental test for the Air Corps. Boy, will he think he's a big shot now. I still think your tops just being a private.

I don't know what I will do tonight. I feel a little tire so maybe I'll just loaf around.

I still think the army don't need you fellows, why don't you ask to be expelled or something. I need you more than they do.

Well, sweetheart I'll say goodnight until tomorrow. God bless you!

Do you always wear your metal?

xxxxx

Your loving and devoted wife  
Jean

(2)

Friday, May 14, 1943

My Darling,

Today has been a nice day for a change. I guess you were having the same kind of weather as we had.

I wish they would hurry and put you fellows somewhere. You couldn't suggest Pine Camp, could you? Maybe they would appreciate it if you would suggest something.

Don't tell me they want to make you Sargent already. Did you have to do K.P. duty yet? I don't think you'll like that very much.

I worked until three o'clock today. Everyone is quitting in E.J. they all go to defense plants to work. I sure would like to have a date with you, do you think it could be arranged?

(1)

Are you getting any thinner? I hope not, I want you to stay just as you are. Nice and trim.

Honey I miss you as usual. I guess I'll never get used to you being away from me. For one thing I don't like being separated.

Well Darling, I can't think of any more to write for now. Sending you all my love.

xxxxxx

Your devoted wife  
Jean

P.S. You don't think I write too mushy do you.

(2)

Clinton Heights  
Rensselaer, New York  
May 16, 1943

Our dear Private Leo,

So, you're a soldier boy now! Well, there's something about a soldier! You just can't define it. And what a hero you are already in the opinions of our two busy-bodies. You better start putting away all the fascinating stories you'll have to tell us one day.

It's good to know you like it so far. As for the "goldbricking" nobody seems to want to tell me what that means. Con and Mr. Dunn just laughed when I asked them. Just as soon as Con wakes up from his nap I'm going to ask him again.

You know we're pretty sore you jilted us before you went into the army. Con definitely said you were going to visit us and so the girls' play house was getting all fixed up and I was

(1)

kind of going easy on butter (although we really don't have much trouble about that since the girls eat so little) and we, sure wanted to send you off with a little parade of our own and then the next thing we know you're already in. You certainly two-timed us, and we don't like it.

We had a letter from Fred this week and I guess he doesn't want to become three uncles it it's going to be a girl again. Anyway, he suggests to Con to divorce me if I present him with another daughter and all along, I was thinking I'd divorce Con if it isn't a boy. It looks like we're going to fight nice if we don't get what we ordered. But frankly I believe Con prefers girls and especially after I told him that boys cost \$5.00 more according to the quotation I just had from the doctor.

Well, we're looking for that letter you promised.

God bless you!

Con, Helen and girls

(2)

Sunday May 16, 1943

My Darling Husband

Last night Marie and I went to the Capital. The picture wasn't very good. Lately they don't have very good shows.

I am writing this letter at Janice's house out in the country. Renee came after me wanted me to drive down with her. Later we are going to the movies again. We were going to play golf but it looks like rain again. Anyway, I don't have the ambition. I just like to loaf around.

Mamie filled up the holes in the garden. She also bought her coal. She just wanted you to know.

Leon wrote home says he is a pharmacist's mate. He likes it although he says it's very tough but interesting.

Darling, I think of you constantly.  
(1)

I miss you more each day my lover.

Do you want me to send your other pajamas? I'm glad you like the army life. I know you wouldn't complain even if you didn't like it.

I pay for this war to be over with soon so we can be together again and have that family of ours.

I can't wait until I see you sweet. I hope it will be very soon.

Well my darling, I better close for now. Will try to write more later.

God bless you and I love you

xxxxxxxxx

Your devoted wife

Jean

(2)

Monday May 17, 1943

My Darling,

I received all your letters today that you send to me. Looks as though you are pretty popular, I am glad you receive so much mail you won't get a chance to get lonesome.

I am enclosing \$5 that Amelia sent me to give to you for the shoes Bert bought from you. I believe they were four dollars. I just added another dollar so it would be easier to send.

It is very warm today just like July. I feel very lazy as usual.

I will send you the things you ask for as soon as I can.

I've been dreaming of you very often lately. I guess it's because you are always on my mind. During the day while I work. I sing love songs to you as though you were right next to me listening.

Darling I miss you as much

(1)

only please don't worry too much about me. I'm taking it pretty good.

I especially was very pleased when I read the last part in your letter. In case you don't remember there it is. I want to be home with you. I miss you and I want you for always. Not because I am away but because I've always wanted you. I mean to keep you. It was very sweet of you.

I feel the same way. Well, my love, I will also say goodnight and sweet dreams until tomorrow. I love you. God bless you.

xxxxx

Your devoted wife  
Jean

(2)

5/18/43

Leo,

Received your letter you wrote Sunday – today and was glad to hear from you. I am glad Renee goes out with Jean as it will help keep her from getting blue, as women usually do, I am going home Saturday if everything works out okay. I know how the weather can be there as it rained all the time I was at Ft. Niagara. It would be nice to be permanent party there as Jean could come and stay if she wanted

[1]

To. You know who I ran into the other night, do you remember Larry Stouble, who worked for Steve Juniga, well I was drinking beer with him Sunday at St. George, he is in the Navy. I miss seeing Renee a lot and I know you miss Jean too. This twelve hours a day here is getting me down. If you don't stay at Ft. N. I hope they ship you close to home. Well Leo so long for now and write if you find time.

Tom

[2]

Wednesday May 19, 1943

My Darling Husband,

Well I see you got yourself a soft job. I hope that being assistant orderly won't make you to bossy. When you get home you probably will try to order me around.

I glad that they didn't separate Johnnie and you. But you never can tell. You have only been up there 2 weeks. I am anxious to know what they are going to do with you. Maybe it would be alright if they keep you just where you are.

I would like to have your dream come true. Maybe it will soon.

I only worked till two o'clock today. I was glad in a way. I've been pretty pooped out lately.

I think I'll take a run down to Renee's. I hear she has the grippe. Tommy expects to be home Sunday and Monday. I wish you could get home for the weekend too. I'm so anxious to see you darling. I seem to be more in love with you every day.

(1)

Al Lesko got his deferment. Justin didn't tell me but Mary Kocek found out.

I guess Marie is pretty busy with her Victory garden. We expect to have one too.

Don't forget to call me Friday. I seem to be always looking at your picture. My picture will be ready sometimes next week. I will send it as soon as I get it.

Well my love I will close for now. Sending you all my love and kisses.

Your devoted wife

Jean

P.S. I went over to Helen Santano's house today. Nick is a mechanic in the airplane. She also has a cute baby boy. I get jealous every time I see one. I guess I'd rather bring up a baby with its Father around anyway.

(2)

Thursday May 20, 1943

My Darling Husband,

Looks as though you are having the same kind of weather as we are.

I hope your cold gets better, you poor baby. They don't mistreat you, do they?

I don't know whether I'm gaining weight or not by my floor lady told me I look husky enough to donate some blood. I told her I would like to but I don't think I have enough to spare.

E.J. sent you a check for \$9.91. I will cash it for you and send it.

We are going to have Monday after Memorial Day off with pay, so you will probably get another check. Looks like you are in the money.

I hope you do get a break. You really deserve it.

I am glad you're not to extravagant –

(1)

it really doesn't pay to spend your money foolishly especially gambling it away. That's probably the way the majority of the fellows lose their money.

I wish you could get a pass to come home for the weekend. I really miss you very much. Bobby Kocik didn't pass his physical test because of a broken bone in his nose. He is going to have it fixed and then they will accept him.

I don't have to work tomorrow. I guess I need a rest. I might go to the Link's dance Saturday night. Depends how I feel. I know you won't mind Darling, I know you trust me, love me. I also love and trust you very much! You're all that matters to me. I wouldn't trade you for any movie star or a million dollars.

Well sweetheart, I'll say so long for now. God bless you.

I remain your loving wife  
Jean

XXXXXXXXXXXX

(2)



Friday 8 a.m. May 21, 1943

Hi Leo:

Just a word to say hello. I received you five letters but, hesitated to write because I wasn't sure if your address was going to remain the same or not.

I talked to Jeanie over the phone last night. She said I did her a favor by calling because she was doing the dishes and after she talked for a few minutes the dishes were all done. Hi. Nice Stuff, eh!

Glad to hear everything is o.k. Mike Kerzman is still in North Carolina and Yacko is out to sea. Frank Firenczi received his notice for next Friday. So, perhaps our neighborhood will be minus another.

My garden is growing fine and boy is it raining today some weather. Well Pal, best of health and luck. Will write later.

WATCH BOOGYBEES

PROF. NICKY

(1)

Friday May 21, 1943

Hi Appleblossom,

I received your more than welcome letter and was so glad to hear you are well and like where you are.

The army routine is quite different from civilian like, isn't it?

Now don't worry about your figure. As long as you feel alright.

It really looks as though it were going to be spring. The trees are so green. Gee, it makes you feel wonderful.

Bozo, Ruth's little dog is sitting here and crying or teasing for something. He is so cute.

It really has stopped raining for once. Maybe I hadn't ought to speak too soon.

Today is Saturday and I am going to go down and eat supper with mother.

(1)

I am beginning to get fat like you. My goodness, I had better watch what I eat hadn't I.

I am awful I don't know what to say now that I have started a letter to you, so I guess I will have to close until next time. I will write more in the near future.

Sincerely yours

Buttercup  
(Roberta)

P.S. Be sure to have my address exactly as follows:

Miss Roberta Koenig  
411 State Street  
Binghamton 3 New York

I will get my mail sooner.

(2)

Saturday, May 22, 1943

My Darling Husband,

I didn't get any mail today. I wasn't too disappointed because you called me yesterday. It is quite cold today. I don't think it will ever warm up.

I went to the show last night. I ran into Evelyn Kocik. She is leaving next week to join Dud her husband. As soon as you get settled I am thinking seriously of coming down to stay with you. I hope it will be possible.

I didn't get out of bed till 10 o'clock. I'm just the same old sleepy head. I kiss you picture every night before going to bed and then I lay down and try to picture you the way you used to tuck me in bed or make love to me.

Well I guess I'll go up town

(1)

this afternoon as usual. I haven't anything to buy.

Honey is it alright if I give those two old grey suits to Connie, they look a little shabby and they also don't fit you too well. I think you mentioned once that he could have them. I had your other clothes all cleaned and put away. They are in pretty good shape yet.

Well my sweet I'll write you later, sending you all my love.

Don't forget if they should ship you somewhere call me up about supper time any week night to let me know.

I love you.

I remain your sweetheart

xxxxxxx

Jean

(2)

Sunday May 23, 1943

My Darling,

I miss you today more than ever. Maybe it's because Tommy came home. He and Renee went down this afternoon. We went down to the station last night to meet him. We went to the Lackawanna instead of the Erie and missed him.

It's beautiful out today for a change.

I went to the dance with Renee last night. I had a pretty good time. I had you on my mind all evening was hoping you were with you. I guess I'm always thinking of you and hoping you could be with me.

A couple of times when I wrote to you I would address the envelope Pvt Leo Skorko, 80 Dickinson St.

(1)

But I'm getting used to it now.

I think that I am going to the movies with Renee and Tommy this evening. He isn't leaving till Monday at midnight.

Well darling, I can't think of any more news for now except that I love you and think of you always.

I remain your

Sweetheart Jean

(2)

Monday May 24, 1943

My Darling Husband,

Thank you sweet for the flowers. I put them in water right away. They were a little dry.

I hope you didn't get your hair cut too short. It might take the natural wave out.

Last night I went to the movie with Renee and Tommy and then later we went to the Barn for a bite to eat. I would have enjoyed myself better if you were with us.

You don't suppose I could come up to see you for Decoration Day if you are still at Niagara. I seem to be always asking you the same question. I probably won't know how to act if I did see you. Anyway, let me know. You could call me Friday the same time.

Mamie says we have plenty to eat and some left over for

(1)

you. If only she could send it to you.

I worked till 4 o'clock today and fell pretty good.

I went to the dance Saturday with Renee and danced with some 4F guys. I was hoping you were with me. I miss you so much. Did I ever tell you how much I appreciate you? No one could take your place.

Bobby Kocik is having his operation today. I let you know how he makes out.

Well darling goodnight for now.

Remember that I love you.

xxxxxx

Your devoted sweetheart

Jean

(2)

Binghamton, N.Y.

May 25, 1943

My Dear Leo.

Well I certainly enjoyed your lovely letter Leo, and above all to know that you are well.

Uncle Sam takes very good care of our boys, doesn't he Leo and we are so happy and gratified at home. To know this and I am so happy Leo to know that you like the Army life. I do hope you will always have it as nice in your next camp as you do there at Fort Niagara.

Yes, I know Leo if we are brave here at home it makes it so much easier for you boys and after all it is your boys that are away from home and we should do everything we possibly can to make your boys happy.

I am so happy your Mother is keeping up so well Leo and it must make it very lonesome for your wife to having you away from home. [unintelligible] least pray that you boys

(1)

will soon be back home with all your loved ones.

Leo you are so brave and you look at it just wonderful that I know you could and will be a great help to other boys that comes into camp and I know your wife and Mother, as well as we are more than proud of you Leo and may God bless you.

I received a lovely letter from Milan. He said it has 97 degrees at Camp Shelby, Mississippi and very dry and we back home here are having so much ran. It has started to rain here again tonight.

When my son goes Leo, I will remember your wonderful letter and try to be brave for his sake.

I do hope and pray that this horrible war will soon end. Leo did you know Mike Fulsic that worked in the B.B. Factory? He was killed in action. I felt so bad for Mike. He was one swell soldier. He ate there at the diner too.

Leo please write to me whenever you have time. I am anxious to hear from you.

My very best wishes.

Ann

(2)

Tues May 25, 1943

My Darling Husband,

I read the letter you wrote to Freddie & Lovey. It seems like everyone ribs him.

It was nice of the mess Sergeant to invite you for dinner. You seem to be doing alright for yourself. I hope it keeps up.

I was planning on going to see you this week-end. But as long as you can't have visitors till after 30 days I guess I won't be able to. Does the 30 days start from the first day you're been there. If it does then I can wait till the following week-end. Don't forget to let me know. I'll be expecting a call from you on Fri the usual time.

Did you really get one of those Kolatiki [supposed word] or did the other fellows grab before you had a chance to?

Some days I get the blues I

[1]

try not to think about it too much.

Gosh honey do you think ~~that~~ they will keep you in the army very long. I keep hoping they will discharge you or something. You don't think I'm silly, do you?

That's what I get for falling so hard for you. It's just like a disease.

My mother is making me a dress so I think I'll drop down the house to-night to try it on.

I hope they will keep you there permanently. It isn't too far from home. Then maybe we could see each other quite often.

I had a wonderful dream about you again. You were kissing me so much that it felt almost real and then I fell out of bed. I hope I dream of you to-night and you dream of me.

Lots of love.

xxxxx Your devoted wife

Jean

[2]

May 26, 1943

Dear Leo:

We are glad you're getting along so well at camp. Don't you suppose you will be sent somewhere else soon? Then you will probably be on K.P, all the time to make up for your good luck now.

Cork got your letter ok and right now he is very busy getting ready for a 3-day camping trip with his Scout troop. He brought his pup tent home last night. They are pretty heavy. They are supposed to leave Friday afternoon, carry grub for 3 days, bedding and their tents. I bet they'll get pooped before they reach

(1)

Main St. I guess it will be good for him thought. I'm willing to bet money that they'll eat all their stuff up and come trailing home Sunday morning or probably even Saturday.

It has been raining a lot down here and you get so you miss it when it's clear. I got a raincoat for Christmas and it's almost all worn out. That is what happens when you prepare for rain – it rains.

I haven't seen Jean lately so haven't heard a thing about her gas card. I imagine it will be pretty tough getting additional gas with all the restrictions they have put on gas now. I suppose when they get

(2)

the pipe line repaired it will ease up a little. We are still planning on a vacation so I hope we will be able to get gas.

A couple of the guys in our office got tossed in the hoosegow a couple of nights back for raising Cain out in the street in the wee small hours of the morning. They spent the night there on account of not being bailed out and yesterday were a very chastened pair. They merely tipped over garbage cans and told the police they didn't have the nerve to arrest them. The police did and they had free lodging over-night. Some fun. I imagine they will be good for a while too.

(3)

Can't think of any more news to tell you right now. Write again.

Love and kisses

Billie

(4)



Wednesday May 26, 1943

My Darling Husband,

I see they are finally putting you to work. I'm not worried too much I think you can take it.

I only worked till 2 o'clock today. I came home and sat in the sun to get a tan. I have a pretty good start. I remember one time you said you would like to see me nice and tan. So, I'm doing it just for you.

I hope you do stay there then you will get a pass sooner to see me. I can hardly wait till you do.

I cleaned the car a couple of times. I want to Simonize it the first chance I get. Sometimes the car is too much bother. I didn't realize it when you were home but I'm getting my share of its now.

Gosh honey I miss you so much.

(1)

It seems the longer you're away from me the more I miss you.

The three weeks you've been away seem like months. I hope and pray this war will soon be over.

I think I will go to the Ritz tonight with Anne. I wish you could come along.

Well darling here's all my love and kisses xxxxxxxx.

Your loving wife

Jean

P.S. I would like to write more but I can't think of anymore to write for you. I love you.

(2)

Thurs May 27, 1943

My Darling Husband

You'll be getting to be a pretty good housekeeper after all the work they give you.

I am sorry to hear about Johnny being shipped. To [sic] bad he couldn't stay with you. I hope they keep you up there so I'll be able to see you soon.

I thought you fellows couldn't get a pass till after 30 days. There are two fellows that left the same day you did and came home yesterday on a three-day pass. One of them were Joe Skrawclak they call him Scratchie. I couldn't understand it. It would have been nice if Johnny could of came before he was shipped.

What are they going to do with that camp if they ship all you fellows out? Close it.

I guess Marie fells [sic] pretty low. I don't blame here. I know how I would feel. But I suppose

[1]

you have to expect those things being in the army. They have no system whatso ever.

I haven't applied for more gas yet. I guess it wouldn't do me any good because you can't pleasure drive and besides

It was hard to get gas from the stations on account of some gas pipe brake. But don't worry. If I need it bad enough, I'll get it.

You know how I miss you. I had a crazy feeling that I would find you at home when I came home from work to-day. I guess I'm always imagining things, Next, I'll be talking to myself, as long as no one hears me.

How many men are left up there yet?

Well my sweet remember that I love you and be a good soldier.

xxxxxxxx

Your affectionate wife

Jean

P.S. My writing is a bad as yours. I hope you can read it.

80 Dickinson Street  
Binghamton, N.Y.  
May 27, 1943

Hi Leo,

Received your letter and was glad to hear from you, also got a letter from my brother Steve saying that he will come home June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hear that you've been doing a little house cleaning out there, some job, eh kid? Oh well, practice makes perfect, why you'll be a good house wife before you know it, (ha ha).

Fred and I was talking to Frank Ferenzi yesterday and he

(1)

was called to appear for his final examination Friday, but I doubt if he will pass, he might?

Fred said, he doesn't believe a word of it, I mean what you wrote bout him, but we know better, don't we Leo?

You wrote to Jean, hoping that she is getting everything she wants, well Leo, I'm sorry to say that she isn't, not since you left. I think you'd better come home, and give her a work out. You know one of your specials – the one that makes her smile, like she

(2)

used to. Sorry to hear about Johnnie Hoycek. We sure hope that you could get a pass for the holidays. Jean and I are trying to get a suntan out in the yard.

We are all in the best of health. Right now, Jean, Fred and I are out in the yard reading your letters and gabbing out here.

Well Leo, I think I'll close now, wishing you lots of luck.

Your sister-in-law

Lovey

(3)

May 28, 1943 Friday

My Darling Husband

I got your letter about being shipped. I really didn't expect them to ship you yet. I am writing this letter anyway even if I don't know your new address but I just feel better if I write something.

I hope you don't get sent too far away. In case you do would you like to have me come and live with you?

Darling I dreamt of you again last night, it was so real. I dreamt you came home during the night and crawled in be with me. I actually felt you lying next to me. I said to you in my dream, "I know you're not here," and you said, "Oh yes I am." I even felt funny when I woke up.

Marie hasn't heard from Johnny yet.

I'm hoping and praying passionately till I hear from you.

(1)

I sort of looked forward in seeing you next week but I suppose now it will be longer than that.

I cleaned the car today. It really sparkled after I got through not that I want to brag but I have been trying to keep it looking better than Freddie's. I tell him his car always looks filthy and he is always cleaning it.

Well any sweet I'll write you again tomorrow. God bless you and keep you close to me.

I love you.

xxxxxxx

Your devoted wife

Jean

P.S. Everyone at home is fine so don't worry about us.

(2)

5/28/43

Leo,

Glad to hear from you, kid, even though you are a goldbricker, you see I know cause Hoysik said so. I have been a patient in this hospital since Wednesday. Must be cellulitis they say but then I needed the rest anyway to recuperate from last weekend – two girls and too much for one man especially girls like Renee and Jean. I hope you can get time off and see Jean as I know she misses you a lot and is lost without you. Leo, don't ever get sick and turn into the hospital because you will have a hell of a job

(1)

trying to get back out again.

I want you to understand I didn't want to be admitted – they made me – said I was working too hard and should get off from my feet for a while.

I hope you and Hiney and Hoysik can stick the war out together. Well, kid, give my regards to the boys.

As ever

Tom

P.S. [*unintelligible*] says to knock off. I am not a goldbrick.

(2)

Sunday Eve May 30, 1943

My Darling Husband,

I just got home from the movies. I saw "Crash Dive." It was very good. I know you would like too. Lots of excitement.

I am just ready to go to bed. I was kissing your picture and decided to write you a few lines. Darling I love you more each day. I'm so anxious to see you that I keep thinking of you all the time.

Marie hasn't heard from Johnny but by the time you get this letter maybe she will.

Frank Firenzezi didn't pass for the army. I didn't think he would.

Sometimes when I think of you being in the army I get very lonesome although I am very proud of you.

I don't have to work Monday so I'll probably just sit around

(1)

in the sun. I think I have too much time to myself.

We are not supposed to pleasure drive but I am using the car anyway. I don't care what the IPA thinks. You might think that I am getting tough but I'm really not.

Well my sweet, I love you. Goodnight and pleasant dreams

xxxxx

Your devoted wife

Jean

P.S. Mamie and the family are all okay. If you should need some money let me know.

(2)

Sun May 30, 1943

My Darling Husband,

Yesterday was a very lonely day for me. Some days I get the blues Today I feel a little bit better.

Last night I went out with Reence again I was very bored although I acted as though I was having a good time I don't want to be an old stick in the mud. I know you want me to enjoy myself.

I can hardly wait till I see you. If you get to Michigan I hope I can come and stay with you.

I dreamt of you again the other night. I guess you are always on my mind I love you more every day

Freddie keeps teasing me.

[1]

about taking care of me.

I told him if you were Lyrane Paevors he couldn't coax me.

I hope you are being a good boy and don't you go out with any of those women

I feel as though I can trust you I know you love y me and you think of me only.

I'm anxious to see you in your uniform I bet you look ~~hansome~~ handsome.

Well my darling I'll write you again later

xxxxxx Your affectionate wife

Jean

May 30, 1943

Dear Leo:

You old rascal. How are you coming. I miss you a great deal. I'm down here in Camp Pickett, Virginia and boy is it hot here. Around a hundred degrees today. No colds here or coughing.

Aren't you shipped yet? I'm in the medical corps and I'm assigned to the Clerk's School and then I have a chance to go to the Officer's Prep. School. I found out what I got in A.Q. about 136. Not bad. You only need a 110 to get in the Officer's Training School.

Only single beds here. The only fellow I know in my barracks is Kempar who slept across from me. Only single beds here. What a blessing.

(1)

The Non-Com are good but strict but it is 100% better than if Fort Niagara. The food is 100% better. We don't get too much but it is good. We eat on dishes. The only thing is we are far away from a big town. The larger town is Richmond, VA. And that is sixty miles away. We have a few jerk towns close by mostly populated by cows and whores.

Well don't forget to write. I'll be waiting to hear from you, you old Pal. Don't forget.

Your soldier friend,

Pvt. Johnnie

(2)



May 30, 1943

Hi Pvt. Skorko

Received you letter which we want to tank you for. We are all in the best of health and hoping that you are the same.

So, they're making a man out of Hoysik that's a laugh. I never expected to hear that he would be doing so well and that stomach of his you say he eats like a pig. Boy I'd like to see that am glad that he is doing so well. How about yourself? Boy if they put anymore weight on you Leo, you'll be looking like me. And that Himey, when you see him, send him my regards tell him that Wolf Shrak is taking good care of his wife. She works where I do so I hear quite a bit about him from her.

(1)

You asked me if we met up with your baby well it isn't the same anymore. Haven't seen her lately. Will have to look her up and take care of her also. Boy what a job I got. Better I should quit E.J. and take care of all these girls. Bob will be leaving before long for the Air Cadets so that will be one more girl to take care of and I going to have fun "Ha Haw."

Things haven't changed much in Bingo. We have been getting plenty of rain lately in fact too much of it. Can't go anywhere this new ban on pleasure dining is hell. Have to ride those stinking buses all the time it drives a person nuts.

Tim Horton was home last week and boy did he lose weight. They got him working for a change. He's guarding prisoners on Staten Island. I can just picture that Redhead guarding prisoners. Why he can't even guard himself and that wife of his. Boy that's a laugh. Them prisoners could take one look at him

(3)

and he'd run. That's enough about the redhead.

Boy, I'm just waiting to see you and Hoysik in uniform. I'm going to get a big kick out of it. Well till hear from you again. I want to wish you Good Luck from Anne also.

Your Friend

John Nedlik

P.S. Tell that "Baldheaded jerk" Hoysik to drop a line – Good Luck

(4)

Mon May 31, 1943

My Darling,

I was very excited when I got your letter although I wasn't very pleased about ~~what~~ you being an M.P. I know you will make the best of it.

Marie called me up and told me Johnny in Camp Pickett Virginia he expects to do some kind of clerical work It sounds pretty good.

If you get any week-end off maybe I can come and see you. I anyway I hope they won't keep you there too long.

If there is anything you need make a list of things and let me know.

Do you want me to send you some sheet or pillow cases?

Tommy Harter is in the hospital he was something wrong with his leg. It isn't very serious.

[1]

I will send you a carton of cigarettes I think you might need them by now.

I've been setting out in the sun again I think of you all the time. I miss you more every day. Remember that I love you, so don't get too discouraged darling I know it won't last too long.

I dreamt of you again last night. It was a very nice dream. I hope it will come true very soon.

Well my sweet I'm praying so Ill able to see you soon. You let me know whenever it will be alright for me to come and see you.

God bless you,

xxxxxx        Your devoted wife  
xxxx         Jean

P.S. This is the \$10 ~~you~~ that E.J. sent you. Don't spend it all in one place.