

Wednesday
27 Dec 44

Dear Frank:

See my news of you in
this second hand & so dis-
heartening. Mother's last letter
said you had gotten just one
V. mail from me. Dear me, I
hope it catches up soon & since
having nothing to pursue facts
makes me a sluggard as a
correspondent.

I've seen all your post
cards, read the remarks, &
enjoyed them doubly since Peggy
Breed has seen most of the places
& explained them to me fully.
Joe sent me your birthday note
to him & it was full of "you"

and I know how much it
meant to Joe. Also read about
your supply of soap & deers
of cigarettes. Of course this
would be the time to give up the
ugly nicotine vice but don't
waste your time trying - we
were rationed to 2 packs a day
(now 4 - no more rations) & I
tried it for about 10 minutes - so
I speak from experience. In-
cidentally I sent you 2 cartons
& some junk in October - &
last week, after your plea to
Lore, I sent about 30 packages
& a lot more junk. Sure hope
they all catch up with you before
the lack of them plunges you
into a gibbering neurosis. And
that's the last thing I can send
in luck until you send me a pe-

Guest. So for heaven's sake -
& yours - get on the ball &
ask me for cigarettes & whatever
else I might be able to supply.
And please put your favorite
brands in order!

Dad's know if Leg is
talking to me - for Christmas
blanning & wrapping kept me
too busy to answer her last
note. Mom tells me her grand
gift was a string of pearls, so
she must love you doubly -
lucky you! I'm still looking
forward to visiting you two
in a vine-covered cottage - or
at least a parlor, bedroom, &
bath! Hurry up, fellow!

Joe back in the hospital
in St. Pete & I wish I could talk

& him. Even more, since I cannot
really get a medical report &
really know what his condition is
& what the prognosis might be.
I have spoken to our psychologist
here, & we may expect Joe to get
these attacks periodically. They
needn't be too serious, but I
should like to know the full
score so that all of us could
express a bit of help & under-
standing, if the same thing
continues in civilian life. The
big thing, of course, is to keep up
his confidence in himself; cause
considering his tendency to feel
inferior, this could be an un-
necessary handicap to him.

Naturally, I have said nothing
of all this to Joe - simply advised
him not to ASK for a discharge

but to relax & give the treatments a chance.

Dan't know what to say about Harriet - I'm all for romance but there are so many things against this one - my fear that she's a "re-bound" after Fiel - difference in religion, age, social status - & most of all his nervous condition & fairly mixed-up emotional state. I'm just hoping the whole affair will slide along until everything is on a more even keel & can be approached normally & calmly. What do you think? - am I too suspicious - or too much of the social snob?

What thro my address

hook fast pench & penit leallow
a lebrutuar card with a note
of congratulations. Don't you
know he responded in his usual
laquacious way with a
card saying: "He! Get to —
my first epistolary bond with
you will not be the last, it
will inaugurate a scintillant
concatenation of uninterrupted
& unprecedented correspondences.
In short, write again." And
it was topped off with a very
brazy enclosure in the form
of a calling card inscribed in
italics: John Francis Callow
Vice Consul of the United States of America

!!! I got more kick out of that
card than almost any other this
year & you may be sure I'm

going to take him up on his
offer. Remembering the ones you
used to pass on to me from
him, I know his is the corres-
pondence I'll truly enjoy &
I'm quite interested in hearing
about his job. There's one
boy who really has talent &
hasn't kept it hidden. I
know another of like ilk but
he happens to be my youngest
brother so I can't blow too
loudly about him.

And now, old sack, I'll
beg off with a promise to
try & chatter with you more
often until your mail starts
calling me & I really have
something to answer.

Meantime, my
contentious soul, & I prayed
that business won't keep
you away too long.

As ever
Dot