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September 1, 1945
 China

Dear Ann,

I'll bet you thought I had forgotten you didn't you? Well good reason the way I scribble but I'll try to catch up for some of that lost time - here and now. First let me assure you that your lovely letters have been arriving with faithful regularity and except for possibly a few of the earlier ones I have them all safely corralled - and believe me, I appreciate every of them. In fact you will never realize the full extent of my joy and delight in which I receive them. They are so true and fine and so expressive of Annette. I shall give myself the pleasure of re-reading them whenever I feel too down-trodden.

I know that you are, in the main, quite happy but at times I discover melancholy outpourings suggesting discontentment. I cannot figure out whether it is unhappiness or just plain being displeased, but knowing just exactly the problem you are up against can acknowledge it with the full recognition of its unmitigated blackness. But Ann - don't worry - you will not always be forced to live in this unnatural army society forever - brighter skies are ahead. Let's try thinking only of those fanciful thoughts of our army experience and try to side step as many or all of those undesirable situations that we have no control over - the army is still dictating and we would be wise if we would just obey to Commands - you can see our hands are tied. We already know that from the past there have always been high and unscalable barriers checking our operations and it isn't likely that the army will be human enough to neutralize the land mines just for us. They are the ones who are probably right and we are wrong, but in the meantime we will cunningly take advantage of every fractional regulation with ⁱⁿ the extreme