

Classification: Routine
Confidential

1 Sept 45

1

Jayne dear,

As boys will do after pay day, I did, it wasn't a bad poker game. Kept getting poor hands, so didn't do much playing for the first two hours, and naturally kept losing. Won one big hand that's worth telling about. In draw, when everyone passes, we don't ante any more, but the opening bet increases. Finally after five passes, a hand was opened for five rupees. There were five players, the first man bet five rupees, the second man raised, the 3rd and fourth called, and I was fifth with 3 fives, I decided not to raise, but the ~~the~~ opener did it for me, and everyone else called. There was two one card draws, two, two card draws and I drew two. The opener drew one and bet five rupees. The next man raised, the next man called and one man dropped, I looked at my hand and had drawn a fourth five. I raised and everyone else called. I won of course, their hands were unusual, there was one full house on aces, one full house on eights and one flush. The money I won in that one kept me even for the evening.

Well, I guess this is the last letter before going on furlough. We're taking the 4:0'clock train down country tomorrow afternoon. We have second class reservations. A second class coach seats 12 during the day and sleeps six at night. As you probably know, there is no connecting aisle between cars, so it's like a private compartment with a public atmosphere. There's a wash room and usually 2nd class reservations are comfortable. The only trouble is when you get an Indian who smokes the local brand of cigarettes. They smell like silage, good fresh silage, mixed with a brand of good rubber. The voyage will take about 15 hours, and will cost about 35 rupees, rather high at that. Have never been to the part of India which contains Gopalpur on the sea. Hope we won't be disappointed. If the beach is decent, and there are no bed bugs, our vacation will be a success. We're taking along 3 cases of beer,

Just in case there's a local water shortage.

We plan to stay one or two weeks, depending how our supply of folding stuff holds out. The prospectus of the place puts the charge at 15 rupees a day, but Indian prices have a mysterious way of amounting to more when the payoff comes, so the length of our visit will be governed accordingly.

I shall miss most of all, the daily letters I've been getting from you. I'll continue to write, but chances are there's no army collection point at Gopāpur, so you won't hear from me for about two weeks, but your mail will all come in at once after I get back.

So long honey, am going to make some sort of an effort to get caught up on all my wrk before leaving. My colleague Henry will do his best to keep things straight during my absence, if the new man we're getting doesn't bother him too much.

I love you
David

S/Sgt David Bolotin
185th QM Co, APO 465
C/O Postmaster, New York



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Avenue
Lexington, 37, Kentucky

W. J. Hare Jr
rd 4

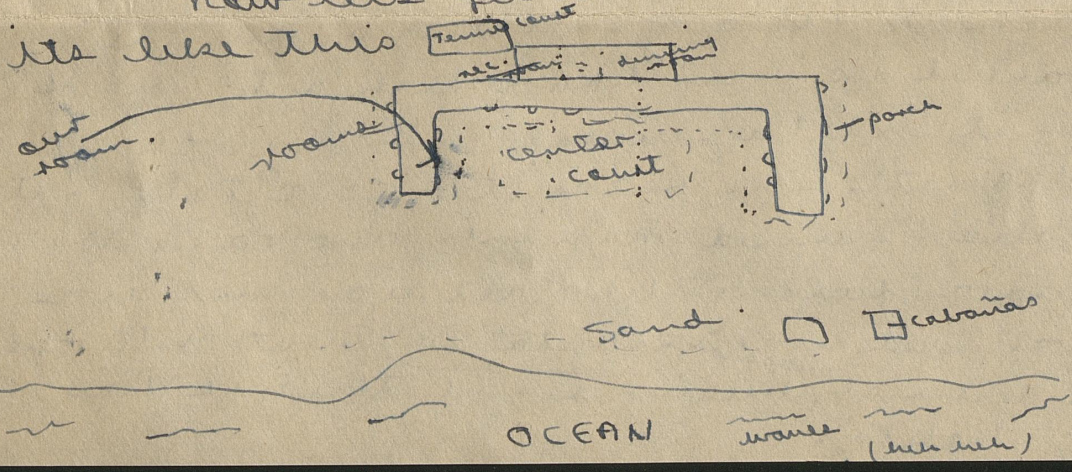
4 Sept 45 2

Jayne dear,

Well here we are off on a holiday,
and so far utterly delightful, well let's
begin at the beginning. at 4:20^{Sunday} we left
Hawrah Station in the company of an
RAF flight officer + a Sikh Colonel, also
a large block of ice with beer scattered
amongst it. The trip was fine, except
we were next to the engine and coal
kept booming off the top of our car.
we arrived at 7:30 AM and were met
by a 1931 Chevy truck, labeled
'Palm Beach Hotel', somewhat incongruous,
or so we thought. Of course, we had a
flat tire almost immediately and 8 Indians
fixed it, what an organizational set up,
complete with Klutzers, diutzers etc.
we arrived at the Hotel about 8:30 and
found a charming, clean, airy, unblemished
place, fine sand beach, an ocean, complete
with waves, native fishermen. My heat
sack is already melting away. we
washed up and had breakfast. The meals
aren't exactly superlative, but they're
adequate. The proprietor is a tall, fat
Italian named Magini who came to
India during the last war and was
wounded in ^{Mesopotamia}, went into the
industrial ^{supplies} ^{in India} business and this is his
holiday.

He's had an interesting, and as he tells it, a prosperous existence here. He's still quite young, around 52 or 3 and rather healthy looking. For his birthday he may have my share of India. He invited Clint + I to a drink of Scotch last night & it went down well, ~~after~~ after which we reported to bed (can't be too careful about drinking water in these parts). The last three books you sent have been a source of pleasure to Clint + I. Have finished 'Gien in the Streets' & am nearly thru 'Vene of San Youngs'. 'Gien in the Streets' gave me a new view of Huey Yang + his crowd. I have always disliked the things he stood for + still do, but the book makes the man understandable, and the forces that motivated him. Saher milady, Jules Balduc and Venty were well constructed + I think the book is well and carefully done.

now lets get back to this place, its like this



think were on the Bay of Bengal, but
am too embarrassed to ask.

after resting up we went for a
swim, a native swimming companion
attached himself to us, and we went
willing. There's some undertow here
& it pays to have someone who's
acquainted with the whys & wherefores
of the water & currents. I skipped
rope for half an hour & then came
back up & slept the afternoon away.
We played gun running & read, went to
bed around 11 o'clock. Got up early
this morning and skipped rope, then
ran a few miles along the edge of
the water, ate the place out of food
at breakfast time, rolled oats, eggs,
bacon & best (good) coffee, hot rolls &
jam. (people at nearby tables were
beginning to watch so I quit. Tea
at 7:00 AM & 4:30 PM, naturally.

well honey, enough for one day,
we're going for a swim now.

I love you
David.

5 Sep 45

Jayne dear,

There is now, in my entourage, two dogs + three children. The children are much less responsive than the dogs, being English; however the children don't dirty on the floor, so each group has its' advantages + disadvantages.

Read until very late last night 'The Wide House' and didn't feel well afterwards. The characters are all distinctly uncomfortable people and seem to leer at you from the page.

It's been warm today, no breeze. Went for my usual run on the beach at 7 this morning. There are coals about 4 square inches large all over the place, but they don't bother you, just sink away when approached. This sort of exercise is very good for my heel, the soft sand doesn't jar you when you're running, and since the footing is soft, you have to dig harder to get places. Am now talking to Elizabeth, 3 yrs old and very shy. She's wheeling her baby sister around. Don't see how people

can raise their children in India ^(India)
& expect good results. The whole place
gives off the fetid odor of hopelessness
& timeless despair.

I heard a very interesting story
about this hotel from its owner.
The army formerly used this place as
a rest camp (for officers & nurses)
but it's been a long while since
they left and the smell seems to
have gone. More about that in later
letters.

Censorship has been lifted
in England, not so here, why
no one knows.

I love you
David

6 Sep 45

Sweet,

No use wasting paper since these
will all be mailed together.

The tennis game is sharpening
already. Bruno (Mr. Magnin) & I had
four sets this morning he won
3 to 1, but my game is decent. Isaac
senior, almost perfect backhand,
weak forehand, but there's hope.
Bruno, in his younger days was

one of Indias best tennis players.
He cant run now, but his placements,
chaps + passing shots at the net
make him tough. The other players
here aren't very good so I've become
2nd best.

Had an interesting time yesterday
evening there were 8 fellows + 4 girls.
The girls, one an army nurse, trustyish
plump butterball. English matron, late
trustyish, ugly but witty. an anglo
Indian girl, well set up but passing
dumb and a scotch lass, 20, nicest
of all. Her husband, also a scotchman ^{name, Jimmie}
is quiet, reserved but friendly, he, Clint
and I are getting to be real resort
pals. The men are Clint + 2 ^{Jimmie}
a CNAC pilot from Paducah, ^{named Paddy Sullivan} Ky, an
american colonel, and English major
+ two other B1's, one of whom cohabits
with the anglo gal. We had rum +
ginletts, danced, sat on the lawn,
(cool breeze blowing) I got heartsick
when I thought how much you'd
have enjoyed it. The american
colonel (young, Dental corps) is something
of a void, the English major was
stiff (body ^{+ mind} not tight) Paddy's a happy
go lucky guy, was flown freight

over the hump for 1 1/2 yrs without
 mishap + is well informed. The
 other EM are nondescript + shallow
 + she already described Jimmie Morrow.
 His (his wife) is effeminate. They've
 only been married 6 months and seem
 very much in love. We sang + talked
 until 1:30. I finished 'Wade House'
 before going to bed. The happy
 ending must have taken much
 time to figure out. Really enjoyed
 all these books you sent, thanks
 honey.

My back is clearing up, the
 sores + boils are drying + it should
 be completely healed by the time I
 leave. Hope by then it's cooler in
 Calcutta + that there won't be a
 recurrence.

Well, the Irish series + water
 spaniel are hanging around, waiting
 to be played with (must keep my
 following). so long until tomorrow
 sweetheart,

I love you
 David

S/ Sgt D. Belatin
785 TH QM CO
APO 465
C/O Pm, ny.



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave
Lexington, 37, Ky

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8 Sept 45 3

Jayne dear,

The laziness of this place has
me in tow already. another air
line (CNAC) maybe you haven't heard
of it, China National Aviation Co.,
pilot arrived today. He brought his
wife along, a charming English girl.
This fellow is a real he man
complete with equipment. He
brought a 30.06 Springfield, fishing
tackle, camera (with telescopic
lens) and a trunkfull of other
equipment (including a few quarts
of Scotch + Bourbon), really a lovely
addition to our little group. His
wife dances well and he doesn't
like to dance, so altogether we
welcome him. They're only staying
four or five days as she works
for the American Red Cross + he
has to get back to flying. He's
from Columbus Ohio.

By the way, when you ask
for whiskey here, you get Scotch.
It doesn't taste like our Scotch,

being only about 70 proof, but
I can drink it all night. Never
drink very much, just a few
during our evening lull session.

Clint isn't feeling well,
his side pains him, the Dr.
thinks he may have kidney
stones.

The meals are getting better
& better, typical one, consommé,
Beef with tartar sauce, Fried
chicken, Roast potatoes, Spinach,
slaw, then cold meats, lemon tart
cheese & beaten biscuits & coffee.
adequate, what.

Enough for today
the lazy feeling has come
back -

I love you

David
cute

10 Sept 45

Jayne darling,

no more afternoon naps for me, geez what a nightmare I had today. Arrived home, called you + you weren't there, called again + again + couldn't find you, got angry, days passed, and I was desperate, then I woke up. Did you ever call back you bad girl??

Have been swimming + tennis regularly. was slowed down in tennis by aching shoulder muscles, which ruined my service, but the ground strokes are steady + tough. can't cover court, but strokes are as good as when I was playing tournament tennis (question, how good were they then), answer, who knows)

Fellow moved in next door with a typewriter, in a day or so, the letters will be typewritten again, this guy's an English Major,

+ very standoffish, but will borrow his typewriter anyway. Just took time off to play 3 games of ping pong. It sure brings out the perspiration when you move around.

Have been smoking the pipe (yours + mine) + find it relaxing over some scotch. I'd better watch myself, have fallen in with a crowd of older English people and am unconsciously beginning to adopt their speech mannerisms, they'll throw me out when I get home if any part of it sticks.

Clint + I have received a couple of invitations to visit people's homes when we get back to Calcutta. There is a 'Lady Cook' who's been on our bright reporter, yup, she's of the nobility, then there's a Scotsman named ~~Dunn~~ Dunn, who runs some horses, he's commissioner of the Docks in Calcutta, quite a position + a nice fellow. His wife a dead singer for vera vague,

but handles. We've got a couple of
sons 18 + 15 with whom I play
tennis.

I took some snaps of the various
people hereabouts & will send them
home as soon as they're developed.

That's it for today

I love you
David

13 Sept 45

Jayne dear,

See, I done it, with the utmost skill and dispatch I separated the man from his typewriter, although, I see now that it wasn't an outstanding accomplishment, since the backspacer doesn't work and the action is uneven. But who am I to complain, and for that matter, who are you, now you'll be able to read the stuff.

Had a most delightful evening yesterday. There's a man from Calcutta here named Harry Araki, kind of reminds one of Harry Carey, anyway, he has a marvelous baritone voice, sings on the radio, although it's not his profession. Anyway, we all gathered around, and he sang practically all the baritone parts of Barber of Seville, with odds and ends from Carmen thrown in, then we sang some negro spirituals, and crooned and had a singing time, all the time a chota peg of scotch was kept in front of all the participants. Irrepressible me sang too, and Mr. Araki said that my voice was wild and untrained, but had good quality and plenty of strength, in other words, he said that as a singer, I would make a good hog caller. Still, my imitation of Chevalier, Jolson, and the inevitable Boyer was accepted with many kudos.

The tennis is getting topnotch, only I kind of pulled a muscle below my shoulder blade, and can do anything but serve, It's fun to get out on the court and slam them around pretty well after all these years of layoff, shows that you don't forget the skills of youth too quickly. After we get back to Calcutta, Sis and Jimmy have invited us to play golf at their club. That will probably be funny, at best I was erratic, now after better than a years layoff, I'll do well to hit the ball at all.

Clint made a big hit with his camera, noone can get film around here, so we took some pictures of the children and it ought to be worth several dinner invitations when we give the parents the prints. There's one thing about the English, they never refuse anything offered them. Whether it's cigarettes or a drink, they take you up hastily lest you change your mind, we'll probably be in hock when we leave the place as we've stood more rounds than we've had bought for us. The CNAC pilots departed, and we profited by one pair of swimming trunks, it seems that this one pilot had a pair that were too small for him, (he's hefty) and they fit me, so I inherited them, they're really nice, kind of elasticized and snug fitting, and I'm wearing them in the best of health although they have one fault, when a big breaker hits you in swimming, they have a tendency to come off, and supercan doesn't like that at all, but since I usually swim only in the company of a swim boy who is inured to things human, everything seems to be turning out all right.

There's one of the children hanging over my shoulder now, and I hope she gets a finger stuck in the typewriter, as she keeps bothering me, not that I wish the little type any harm, but she is super pesky. Remind myself of W.C. FIELDS, 'Get away you little brat, or I'll smash you're littleskull in.

This is later, in fact one day later, tea came, and I was talked into going down to the beach yesterday after tea, so never did finish the letter. Well the vacation is fast drawing to a close. It's been real fun. Swimming is almost a pleasure despite the salt water, and I can almost surf (without a board) though sometimes I get rolled over in a wave and salt water runs out my ears for some time afterwards. It's been very warm lately, and the heat rash came back on my arms, although my back is a lot better, practically good enough to expose to the public, though not quite.

You'd like my hair now, it's violinish, and kind of light from constant baking in the sun, and the hair line hasn't crept up so much, (I hope).

From some of the things I've heard around here, (from owners of property etc) we won't be in this theater very long. Honey, I hope this ends soon as every day away from home is torture now that the war has ended. The army seems more dreadful than ever now that I've been away from it for a couple of weeks, and I certainly hope that the day of discharge is not too far distant.

Surprisingly enough, the recalcitrant major with the bad sense of humor next door seems to be making gurgling sounds that indicate that he wants his typewriter, his mission can't be half as worthy as mine but I guess he owns the thing so I better give it to him. I love you sweetheart (to be continued)

David

Wednesday, Sept 12, 1945
Calcutta, India

Dear Mrs. Bolotin,

Just a short note to let you know that Dave is alright and having a good rest on his furlough. He asked that I write you for there are no facilities for mailing letters to the U. S. A. where he is staying.

Both the boys like the place very much and they are spending almost all of their furlough time at Gopalpur. When they left, they told me that they would probably stay only one week but the place is so very ~~and~~ nice and they are resting up before their return to the states which we all hope will be soon. Just wishful thinking in which most people seem to be indulging these days.

Just a word about myself to clarify why I should be writing this letter. I live in the same room as Dave, work in the same office and am one of the bridge foursome. Perhaps we will meet some day.

Yours very truly

Young Shrestha

SGT. I. SHECHTER, 32320968
1ST QM DEPOT CO.
APO 465 4/0 PM, N.Y., N.Y.



MRS. DAVID BOLOTIN
285 So. ASHLAND ST
LEXINGTON 37, KY.

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16 Sept 45 4

Jayne Darling,

Just got into town from Esapalpur and was much perturbed about your tired condition. It seems to me the St. may be right about nerves. People don't realize what a complicated mechanism they are. It seems to me that without realizing it, you may have wound yourself up into a tight bundle with the war + new associations etc and you're having a lumpy reaction which leaves you all played out. I'm sure it's very temporary sweetheart and one of these mornings you'll wake up ready to kick the world in the face. Don't worry about anything, take it easy and figure that one of these days will be leading a normal life together and have things to do + mutual interests that'll keep us busy + we'll have no time to be dreepy drammers.

Now the added info. It's
Big. General Robert Neyland. (formerly football coach at Dem.) Date of induction, 5 May 1942 - (cipes that's a long time)
Outfit Supply N.C.O. June 42 to June 44 - casual from July 44 to Jan 45.
QM - Stock Record Clerk to May 45 + chief of Report Branch, Property Section, QM, Base General Depot, APO 465 to the

present time. Tell him to get the
ball rolling. I gotta take care of
my boopie + want to start farming,

I'm playing basketball tonight.
Just found out the team has a game
so I'm off. I love you completely

David

PALM BEACH HOTEL

GOPALPUR.

Name *M. D. Bolotin*

Bill No. *87/D* for the month of *Sept.*, 1945. Room No. *7A*

Date	Board & Lodging	Aerated and Mineral Waters.	Wines	Smokes.	Misc.	Daily Total
1						
2				Arrival Car		
3	14			7 - -		
4	14					
5	14		6 - -	Tonga for luggage		
6	14			(Arrival)		
7	14					
8	14		(8 1/2 x 9 1/2)	1. 8. 0		
9	14		14. 14. 0			
10	14					
11	14		11. 6. 0		Tennis Shoes	
12	14		0. 8. 0		2. 2. 0	
13	14		3. 4. 0			
14	14		3. 4. 0	Departure Car		
15	14			7 - -		
16	14					
17				Tonga for luggage		
18				(Departure)		
19						
20				1. 8. 0		
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31						
Total	196		39. 4. 0	17 - -	2. 2. 0	254. 6. 0

Service Quality @ 10% on 19. 10. 0
Board & Residence Total of Bills Rs. 274. 0. 0

- (1) Please settle by the 12th of the month. *Pl. add. Bank for 154* 3 - -
- (2) Discrepancies in account may be referred within a week otherwise it would be supposed to be correct.
- (3) In case of out station cheques Bank Commission at the rate of -6/- % subject to a minimum of -6/- should be added to the amount of the Bills.

Cheques payable to Palm Beach Hotel.

Total Rs. 277. 0. 0

E. & O. E 16. 9. 1945. *1/3* Voucher attached.

Rs. Two Hundred & Seventy Seven and

M. J. ...
 Manager.

S/Sgt D. Balatin
125th Gun Co.
APO 465
407th, NY.



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

4

7. day
Sgt. ~~vacation~~
Homer

Part
of the

Red Cross
work

Kansas

18 Sept 45,

Jayne sweet,

Having one last go of freedom prior to returning to work. Really dread going back. Have been talking to some of the fellows from the office & it seems that my colleague became hopelessly confused after I left and the work is piled sky high. Oh, well, I suppose keeping busy will make time pass more quickly. Enclosing a souvenir of my Isopalpur trip. The snapshots won't be ready for two or 3 weeks.

The basketball game wasn't too bad yesterday, we lost by 10 points to a good team. This climate is a little too deadly for active sports & I had to ask to be taken out twice, just didn't have any sun left in the legs. We have another game Thursday, maybe we'll do better. There isn't much talent on the team, we haven't got a good pivot man.

Started smoking again while at Isopalpur. The evenings were

long & just kind of lapsed into it.
pretty good though, from Jan to
Sept with only an occasional
pipe full. Didn't notice any great
change one way or the other during
the non smoking period, just
kind of felt left out of things
sometimes since everyone else smokes.

Don't know if I mentioned
J.B. Pearson. Became friendly with
him at Kopalpur. He's been in India
20 years, is an executive in an
English Bank, 42 yrs. old, quiet
but nice.

The desire for adventure &
travel ~~is~~ ^{is} seen last after talking
to people who have travelled &
adventured for a long period. They have
viewpoints that are normal, certainly
not broadened, they've lived in
unpleasant physical surroundings a
great part of the time, there's just
not much to it, sort of a precarious,
wandering existence with no easily
discernable virtues.

Didn't pay much attention
to the Jewish Holidays this year

although there was an adequate local program.

Just a little private observation between us, while on furlough, I didn't mention my background. It was very comfortable to be one of the crowd. For a change. So he accepted for what you are is a good thing. The only mention of things Jewish (there were extremely few) bordered on the derogatory. It was just an intell. won't go into it, but being a Jew is a burden. You have no choice but to accept the burden & make the best of it, but burden it is.

Sue & Judy + Edwin are married by now, can't see how they can miss being happy. Always liked Edwin + think he'll make a super husband.

Kind of wasn't surprised when you spoke of Zigie + Fanny Rose. She's kind of a cold person. Thought perhaps it was only a reserve kept up in public, but discarded privately, but apparently it's ~~is~~ constant. They've undoubtedly worked

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things out, but lethargy + love are
unmixable.

about Xmas packages, don't
send any, + tell everyone else not
to. They don't arrive until Jan or
Feb, + indications are that we'll
be out of here by then (hope + sunset)

In regard to your shoes,
when I get back we'll take a trip
to one of the better Drs + have a
last made for you in 3 heel heights.
I don't believe any of the standard
lasts fit your foot + it'll be better
to have your shoes specially made.
In the meantime stick to 17 + 18/8th
heel heights in medium weight
shoes, ^(possibly dress) don't get any of those heavy
arch types. Now, disregard all this
+ go to a good Dr. who specializes
in orthopedics, it might be a good
idea to get some expert advice if
boopsies tootsies are flaring up.

That's it for now, take
care of my favorite person
'cause I love you
David

SI Sgt Belatin
185th AM CO.
APO 465
C/O Pm ny.

Free



Mrs. David Belatin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

5

20 Sep 45

6

Jayne dear,

Thought I'd get to write to you yesterday afternoon, was on CQ at the Hindustani Bldg. Now that everyone gets Wed and Sat afternoons off except a few key men, who rotate in staying on those days, life will be easier, except for the few men (yes boopsie, I was elected) aint it awful.

They finally finished engraving the cup we won in the bridge tournament and will send it home in the next few days, will also send whatever books I can round up.

We had a practice basketball game last night and lost it, but were much improved and none of the fellows were quite as tired as they'd been the first game. The team just isn't much, but it's fun playing the game win or lose. (There's going to be a lot more losing than winning).

The fellows 35 and up and those with 75 points or more left yesterday. So far it hasn't even put a dent in the office, only a few have left. I sure hope DK makes an effort as even a month cut off of service here would be most welcome. As it is, I'll probably leave in February, but February is a terrifically long way off, $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, and that's a long time. Each day seems to stretch out interminably.

Am going out to Budge Budge for the weekend. Sam Weil and I will be able to get some tennis in, and he has some scotch, so, we should have a real nice weekend, (if it doesn't rain).

By the way boopsie, you've got one pet word that you constantly use in the wrong tense, the word is 'use', you say that you'll 'get use to it', ne memsahib, get used to it is correct. Any word you write in your letters to me is a good one, I'm thinking of your business correspondence with Red Cross etc.

Well, here we go again, back to work. In another day I should be back to where I was before I went away, it's taken me quite a time to get my files straightened out. I shall always close with, I love you, 'cause I'll love you 'till I close David

S/SGT David Baletur
185th Am Co
APO 465
C/O YM, NY



Mrs. David Baletur
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

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Sept 23 7

Dear Jayne -

Evidently you have not received my first letter so I shall try again.

As one Weil said to another "This is a heck of a war" Dave Botwin the Key flash will also agree, as we are both sweating out these last few months together.

Now, to tell you who I am. Name - Sam L. Weil of Huntsville, Alabama; my father hailed from a little town in Ky that isn't worth mentioning and I have an uncle, Dr. J. D. Weil, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, but formerly of Owensboro.

Ky. I pronounce my name
"Neel" and not "Nile".
You might like that as
I understand from Dave
that your mode of pro-
nunciation is the same.

I met Dave about three
or four months ago. He
came to our installation
here in Calcutta with Lt.
Bill O'Hare, my old room-
mate. Dave had been Bill's
acting first sergeant at
Lake Beal near Bombay and
I had been introduced to him
by Bill. We began to talk
over the good old days
back in the States and
Dave mentioned the fact that
he had married a Jayne
Neil of Lexington. When the
name of Neil was mentioned

I immediately became interested and ever since I have Balaten and I have been hitting it off pretty good together.

I might add that I was very fortunate in being placed in a very nice little bungalow about 70 miles from Calcutta. We have two beautiful tennis courts, a swell breeze from the river nearby and a generally decent place. I mention all this because your beloved husband has taken a liking to the setup. I have him out ^{here} this weekend and ^{as} we have been playing quite a bit of tennis at the installation I have decided also to become an active participant. I

am sure that with a few more sets under his belt he won't need one. What a physique. My gosh, this man eats like an elephant. (Incidentally, the food wasn't bad either.) I'd like to see him trans-ferred out here but he is doing a swell job in town and it's a little late now, anyway. I don't think he minds the "deal" in Calcutta although it is quite a filthy place. "Speaking of deals", did you know that your husband had a chance to go to O.C.F. and turned it down, "Cold"? At first, it made O'Han and myself feel like knocking his brains out. He has

lots of ability and we
thought that he would
make a fine officer. Well,
after thinking about it for
awhile I rather agree with
the old boy. If he had
gone back to the States for
O.C. I he would just about be
finishing up now. In three
or four months he might have
been on his way to Japan or
Germany so I figure, ^{that} he's
just as well off. At this
time I feel sure that we
will all be leaving this place
by early February at the latest.

Any, I've written five pages.
It's being rather familiar
in my first letter. Guess
I'd better stop now and
wait for the reaction.
Let me hear from you soon.

In the meantime I'll see that
little Dave is a good
boy. I'm hoping for a
quick return.

Sincerely,
Sam

H. S. L. Milo-1591514
4280th Depot Co.
APO 465 1/2 PM NYC



Mrs. David Balatin
285 S. Ashland Avenue
Lexington, (37) Kentucky

7

Last letter
"well"
Resemmit

pleasantly

23 Sep 45

8

Jayne dear,

Had a real nice week end. Sam Weil picked me up about 3 on Saturday afternoon, we went out to Ludlow, played some tennis, ate played chess for an hour and went to bed. Kind of like chess, just learned Saturday, there's plenty of movement and so many possibilities that you have to stay alert.

WE played tennis practically all day Sunday. Another fellow joined us. A young Lt named Jim Wood. He played No. 1 man on Indiana's tennis team in 37,8 and9, besides playing in the nationals several times etc. I wasn't able to win much from either of them, but made it interesting for them.

Your namesake Sam Weil is a little goofy but a nice fellow.

Ludlow is across the Hooghly River, so we parked our jeep on the near bank and took the Bijali Ferry over. The Hooghly is a very treacherous river, also extremely dirty. It empties into the ocean and is tidal. The river is big enough for medium sized ocean going vessels to navigate her, and it's interesting to sit in the house out there and watch the steamers go by.

Jim Wood works for the surplus property set-up over here, and says that the plan isto empty the theater of supplies and men by late Feb. or early March, but that calls for some fast work, and it's possible that the prgram will fall behind schedule.

Received an interesting letter from Mother yesterday. The packages haven't arrived yet, probably came over here by boat and that usually takes at least 90 days from the time of mailing.

We're getting a delayed monsoon now. It rains almost every night. We got caught in a storm coming back yesterday evening, and as luck would have it, The rain was coming in on my side of the jeep for most of the trip home, and I was properly soaked by the time we arrived.

Sure hope DK can do something for me, but I'm not putting too much hope in it. Oh well, I guess March isn't so far ~~away~~, what's five months, when each day seems like a year. (You can get the answer by taking 150 times 5) (Approximate, of course)

Another ~~d~~^amm day at the office is about to begin. I've finished three Reports of Survey amounting to a million dollars, and after checking them today will send them in. It's a tricky business, one mathematical error and they kick them ~~back~~, and there are thousands of mathematical computations on these surveys, bound to be a mistake somewhere, but I haven't found any, maybe the guy that does the checking in Washington will be tired of it all too (hope so).

I should have this survey framed. It's 200 pages long and I wrote 2000 words explaining away the shortages, monumental, that's what it is. Well, I'm due a typhoid shot today, so I'm off for the infirmary, stuck again as it were.

I love you
David

S/Sgt David Bolotin
185th QM Co, APO 465
C/O Postmaster, New York



FREE

Mrs. David Bolotin
285 S. Ashland Avenue
Lexington, 37, Kentucky

8

25 Sep 45

9

Jayne dear,

Just time for a short one this morning. Had a typhoid and small pox shot yesterday, and that combined with a slight cold ~~xx~~ made me a bit uncomfortable yesterday evening. 102, but I feel fine this morning.

One of the boys with whom I came over did me a nice favor yesterday. He's in special service, and I mentioned that I wanted to play some tennis, and didn't have a racket. Four hours later I did have a racket, and what a racket, a registered Davis Cup, with tournament gut in it. Now maybe I'll be able to hit a few over.

Was eating in a Chinese Restaurant across the street from the Hindhusthan Bldg yesterday, when I ran into a fellow that I'd come overseas with. He was down from China. Had gotten a direct commission up there, it seems that one of the generals took a liking to him, and his job during the war has been to travel all over the theater with secret and confidential papers for the general. Naturally, he liked his job and he feels that it's been a lovely war.

This week end Clint and I are planning to go out to visit the Morrows. They're the Scotch couple I told you about that we met down at Gopalpur. We'll be able to golf, play tennis, swim, which should make a nice week end. The only hitch is that one of us may be on duty Sunday, so we'll have to wait until tomorrow to make the engagement.

AFTERNOON
Wednesday ~~evening~~ I'm playing tennis with a fellow named Brandenburg, who's supposed to be a very good player.

Ta ta Boopsie, time's run out.

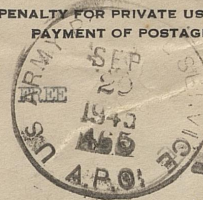
I love you
David

WAR DEPARTMENT

S/Sgt David Bolotin, 35478690
185th CM Co, APO 465
C/O Postmaster, New York

~~OFFICIAL BUSINESS~~

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PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



Mrs. David Bolotin
285 South Ashland Avenue
Lexington, 37, Kentucky

27 Sep 45

Jayne sweet,

Had yesterday afternoon off, and spent the whole afternoon playing tennis. The game is getting OK. Won my first set from a better than average player. Also played doubles with some national ranking players from the states. This fellow I was playing with named Hal Wagner showed me what was wrong with my strokes and there was an immediate improvement. Also, I found out that good equipment is half the story. Was using the racket 'Davis Cup' that my friend Brandy got from special service for me. It had a new string job in it, and is a medium weight perfectly balanced bat. So much for the tennis, but I'm certainly glad I took it up again, as it gives me something to look forward to, and makes the time pass a little more quickly. The only drawback is that it's so warm here that a few sets of tennis means prickly heat and the resulting heat rash.

Gosh, I can hardly wait for some news of DK's progress. I'm really not trying to put too much stock in it, but it's the old story of a drowning man clutching at straws. Didn't think I could miss you and everything at home any more than in the past, but it's getting progressively worse. Since the war ended going home is such a definite prospect, but just out of ~~the reach~~ a fellows reach, oriental torture, that's what I call it.

Got a lovely letter yesterday from Aunt Corrine acknowledging the letter I wrote to Melvin. Guess he's out of bed by now, sure hope he gets to feeling better, he's such a good egg.

Am going to pick up the pictures we took on furlough, they're really expensive here, 31 rupees for four rolls, that's almost ten dollars. I'll be broke until the end of next month. Tennis isn't quite as expensive as in the states. You can get a good string job here for ten rupees, about 3 dollars, I guess the labor is cheaper.

That's it for this morning.

*I love you more than ever,
David*

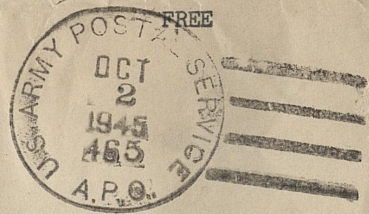
Mr. Jay D. Weil

~~XXXXXX~~
~~WAR DEPARTMENT~~

S/Sgt David Bolotin, 35478690
185th QM Co, APO 465
C/O Postmaster, New York

~~OFFICIAL BUSINESS~~

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PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$30



Mrs. David Bolotin

285 South Ashland Avenue

Lexington, 37, Kentucky

10

28 Sep 45

11

Jayne dear,

Got the snapshots back, and they're not too bad. They were either overexposed ~~by~~ in taking or incorrectly developed and came out dark, but they're ~~n~~ OK considering the camera we were using, a \$3.50 .35 MM job.

Now let's see, I believe the caption on the back of the snaps explains each one. The sun was terribly strong in each of the films, and you couldn't help squinting, so that alters them a bit. There are quite a few more, but ³⁵ altogether I'll only be able to send five or six a day as the envelopes are too bulky if more are sent. We're going out to visit Sis and Jimmy this week end. They have tennis courts, a swimming pool and a golf course at their compound so there will be plenty to do.

I think I told you the new army work schedule, Wed and Sat afternoons off also Sunday, but the drawback is that I have to remain in the office every so often as a section head and take charge of the office. I guess it's if anyone wants information, someone will be there all the time to give it to them.

Got your letter yesterday where Dad ordered a helicopter, yipes, that's something. I imagine they're easy to learn to pilot and will probably be in common use in a few years. Tell me more about them, how fast do they go, what's their range, do you have to use airport facilities to land them, etc?

You mentioned something about Morris Griner training the yearlings. How many does Dad have, and what are their breeding?

It's becoming more and more difficult to write. There's only one big thought on my mind, WHEN WILL I BE ABLE TO COME HOME? It blots everything else out, you can't be normal about anything, it's hard to concentrate on work, it's just hard to keep an even keel, it's hard to do anything, but think about home and you. Gosh, I hope DK can hasten the homeward journey, I'll kiss his bald head and listen to his stories with an open mind from now on if he hastens the homeward journey by as much as one day.

The fellows are all in a daze and whenever more than one man is together
(awkward phrase) the talk immediately turns to points, rumors, every
subject begins and ends with: WHEN ARE WE GOING HOME.

So long honey.

I love you so,
David

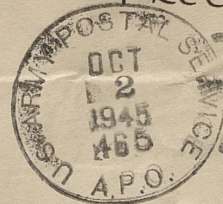
WAR DEPARTMENT

S/SGT David Belotin
T85 OM CO, APO 465
C/O PM, NY

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FREE



Mrs. David Belotin
285 S. Ashland Ave.
Lexington, 37, Ky.

11

29 Sep 45

Jayne dear,

The ~~big~~ biggest news of the day is the basketball game we won last night. 28-26 and it was a thriller. We played the Hialeah Engineers and they were a big tough bunch of men who ~~know~~ know how to play basketball. We led all the way, but never by more than four points. All the fellows on our team are up in years as basketball players go, 32, 34, 30, 29 and I'm the baby of the team at 28. It was a rough but clean game, we did most of the roughing, since we were too tired to play the right way. If your legs won't carry you to the ball, the next best thing is to dive at it in order to tie it up. I don't know how hard this kind of activity is on your health, but it's a great deal of fun, and nice to know that you can still get in there and scamper around and play effectively.

Now let's get to the pictures of the day. First we have my number one and number two swim boy. All Clint's and mine for the sum of 3 rupees a week. They are natives of this area and know all the tides and undertow and it's a good idea to have them along when going swimming. They also know the exact location of the sand bars, and we used to swim out past the breakers about a hundred yards and rest on a sand bar diving through the waves and riding the surf boards in. Next we have a picture of me and my gal friend. A very sweet child, she was down here with her folks. One night they shot a hyena, or rather I should say one evening, and she really bawled when she saw the dead hyena, so old pappy DB cheered her up and dried her tears. ^{as far} The rest, you'll recognize the old cogger in them. In the last picture we have a shot of cuddles, a Cocker pup with silver and black markings, a blooded pooch belonging to Mr. Dann, the fellow I told you about who's Commissioner of the Port in Calcutta and owns some race horses. There are some duplicate snapshots in ~~this~~ the whole bunch, so please give some to Mother.

As I said in yesterday's letter, Clint and I are going out to visit the Mowrows this afternoon, we'll get there about 4 P.M. today and stay until Sunday evening.

It's been raining most of the week, so tennis is out, but we'll golf and swim.
Anyway, it gets away from the army for a few hours, and that's an accomplishment
in itself.

Have to do a little speeding this morning, as we're only working part day
and have a great deal of work to clean up, so au revoir sweetheart.

I love you
David