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12-31-1944

Letter Written by Victor A. Speert to Edith Speert Dated December 31, 1944

Victor A. Speert

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Recommended Citation

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31 December 1944
Somewhere in Belgium

My dearest sweetheart,

Today was a mail-less day for me but you can't hit the jack-pot all the time I suppose. However as long as no mail is distributed throughout the Co I don't mind but when others get it and I don't, I scream.

Today the weather warmed up a bit and sure enough we had a glimmer of snowflurries.

It seems that nearness to the front doesn't alter military justice so I've got my hands full again with another Court Martial case - this one from another battalion.

Nothing new or eventful these days - same old stuff of sitting and waiting for things to happen.

The division is building up a fine reputation for itself. Although the newspapers are close-mouthed concerning the activities of the outfit, fellow outfits as well as the enemy is building up a healthy respect for the outfit. It's surprising but the outfit seems to accomplish things inside of itself.

Tonight is New Year's night and
the only difference between this night and
any other night is the date.

Oh yes, we received some champagne
to-morrow which I may try. Gee' if only
we were together to greet the new year.
With good fortune we should be together
to greet 1946. Darling, I miss you like
mad and I long to feel your caresses.
I know darling, you feel the same way and
that's what makes me extra happy!

In last night's letter I told you that
we were going to have our big drinks today, but
instead I hear that we're going to have it
to-morrow. Say, I had a small plate of
French fried potatoes today made by one of the
Belgian women in whose house we now stay.
She asked me if I would please take some and
the potatoes did look very tempting.

These people can't get over the wonderful
feeling between officers and enlisted men in the
American army. They say the Germans were
terrible in that respect constantly yelling at these
men. Oh well!

Don Luddick just dropped over and
we've got hold of the champagne after all!
Look, we have a bottle of champagne and
we'll probably kick our heels to-morrow

Be's got them outside now getting cold.

I've borrowed some glasses from the family here and we will make our toast.

Here's to you darling and many years of joy and happiness!!!

I'm enclosing a 20 franc note of Belgian money. Since each franc is worth \$.025 in American money a 20 franc note is worth \$0.50. Put it among our souvenirs.

Sheldon, Huggins, ~~Woot~~ & myself plan to drink champagne this evening until we get inebriated. Whatta

hell of a way to celebrate New Year's.

Incidentally at midnight every gun on the Western Front will fire on the enemy simultaneously. Whatta fireworks!

Goodnight Darling - Happy New Year.
I love you
Vic