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11-28-1953

1953-11-28, Albert to Joan

Albert J. Sedlacek

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Subject Terms

Air Force, Housing, Post-War Planning, Personal Narrative, Refugees, Salvage,

Keywords

job, atomic bomb, censorship, civilians, communications, clearing station, fire, love, marriage, observation, personal stories, postal service, radio, romance, sex, soldiers, switchboard, Thanksgiving, women at home, war work, cold weather, Pusan, Korea

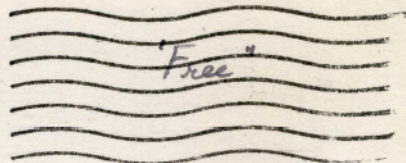
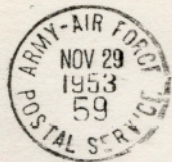
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P.F.C. Albert J. Sedlacek
RA 12422130
507th Sig. Co (SVC)
APO 590 P.M. S.F. Calif.
ATTN: 8069th A.U.



VIA AIR MAIL

Miss Joan C. Palmer
84 West 176th St.
Bronx 53, N.Y.

U.S.A.

PUSAN
FIRE

Nov 28, 1953

Dear Joanie;

"Pusan in Flames", "Thousands Homeless",
"Millions, Burning Equipment, Dollars", "Pusan Com-
Center Burned to a Skeleton", "Sedlacek Radio Burned
to only a Frame" — This is what happened
within 24 hrs. I can't describe the way Pusan
looks except, if a Atomic bomb was dropped
it couldn't do worse. I feel sorry for these
people, no place to go and its freezing out.
Their homes were small wooden shacks, still
it was home to them. To see them walking
around, not knowing where to go.

Last night before I went to sleep we
were watching the fire from the hill on our
post. It looked small & far away. At 11 o'clock
they woke me up, to get in a jeep and get my
radio dismantled. The wind (40 MPH) was forcing
the fire down onto the Comcenter, KBS Headquarters,
& the A G, Chapel buildings. When I got down there
the fire was about two blocks away & I quickly started
working on the radio. Most of the men were working
like nothing was wrong, the men in the Crypto Room (code)

were the only ones, beside myself trying to salvage this equipment. I got one transmitter unbolts when, our crazy Captain became panicky and ordered all men out of the Com-center. Now nobody is allowed to enter my radio room or the Crypto room, unless you are cleared by the Intelligence Corps. Reason being that there are certain things that ^{no} ~~know~~ one is suppose to see. This procedure goes for officers & well as E.M's, even if in danger. Well this nut of a Captain breaks my door down, says get out, & then breaks down the door to the Crypto room down. I told him my messages & logs are all classified and up material & I can't leave them here, now that the door is broken. He said never mind, get out, so I went out. Meanwhile all the equipment was left in the com-center, teletypes, radio set, Tape recorder, switchboard, etc. Instead of having one man take one of each of these items and put them in a truck, they loaded the truck with furniture from the officers mess. We finally evacuated to the broken down alter-mate com-center. In the morning we visited the com-center, everything was burnt, all my messages, radios & machines melted, nothing!

I can go on and on about this fire, it was something you don't forget, for some time. When I get back, if we don't have anything better to do, ask me about the fire!

As for the reason I want to be a Phys-Ed teacher, it's not because of girls in bathing suits, remember I'll be married to you, your suppose to take ^{care of} all those wants, do????

Well I'm glad you joined Garrison, you'll be able to track me????, I wonder!

We had a storm the night that I was to call home. The circuit went out, about 12:30 and couldn't get them back in, I felt bad but as long as we can write to each other, that's what really counts, next to our love for one another.

How was Thanksgiving, eat enough, chubby?
Well Jamie darling, that's it, I have to go out again tonight and fix up some radio equipment that we received from Japan and work the rest of the night receiving those messages that were broken & send them out.
So far 3 hrs sleep, lots of coffee & two meals, nothing like the Army. Give my regards to your folks & Ray
all my love,
Albit

[[Ashley McLaughlin 2/1/17]]

[[Albert J. Sedlacek Correspondence #2]]

[[Page 1- Envelope front]]

P.F.C. Albert J. Sedlacek
RA 12422130
507th Sig. co (SVC)
APO 59, % P.M. S.F. Calif
Attn: 8069th A.U.

[[image- faded black circle stamp
ARMY-AIR FORCE POSTAL SERVICE “Free”
NOV 29
1953
59]]

[[text: VIA AIR MAIL]]

Miss Joan C. Palmer
84 West 176th St.
Bronx 53, N.Y.
USA

[[light pencil: PUSAN FIRE]]

[[Page 2- Letter]]

Nov 28, 1953

Dear Joanie;

“Pusan in Flames”, “Thousands Homeless”,
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[[Page 3- Letter]]

(2)

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[[Page 4- Letter]]

(3)

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As for the reason I want to be a Phys-Ed teacher, it's not because of the girls in bathing suits, remember I'll be married to you, your supposed to take [[^]] care of [[/^]] all those wants, no????

Well I'm glad you passed Grammar, you'll be able to teach me????, I wonder!

We had a storm the night that I was supposed to call home. The [[?]] went out, about 12:30 and couldn't get them back in, I felt bad but so long as we can write to each other, that's what really counts, next to our love for one another

How was Thanksgiving, eat enough, chubby?
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all my Love,
Albert