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Bombay, India.
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My Dear Ivy.

This will not be finished as it is now getting latish. I first had to mend my pen, which I dropped a couple of days ago & bend(? bent). It is now better than it was before. Talking of pens, I hope that you got the ones which I sent to you June 20, July 20, August 20, you should get it about Sept 20. So we are now entering the month which will give us the third birthday of the war. He is getting a very big boy isn't he this last six months.

There seems a chance that my theories about this war are liable to be correct. You remember I said that the allies were now producing trained pilots, soldiers, planes in particular & guns, to outfight the Germans, but we should not see a turn of the tide until, transport & supply difficulties had been overcome & the men(?) & the weapons were in position. Then we should see the turning of the tide and I thought that we should be seeing signs of that by Autumn. Now, the Russians seem to be holding the Germans in the South & starting offensives elsewhere. The Americans have captured the Solomon's. The Chinese have recaptured airfields and towns within effective bombing range of Japan proper. Things are still very critical, the initiative may fly back & forwards from us to the axis a few times, before the full power of the united efforts of R. E. & A can be brought to bear.

In the meantime I have had a busy day, but rain, my god, the Monsoon is supposed to be over, so it is having a last fling & making(?) a real good job of it. When I took over my Wards, they were ill equipt, transfer wards, where, the other two Medical wards bunged (?) their mild cases. Now, it is fairly well equipt. I don't take transfers only my own cases. Have got decent beds, everything shipshape

& being in a block on its own, with its own dining room & verandah, red cross equipment, I think it is easily the best Medical ward of the three now. Only I can't think how I can get my ward numbered A & the other two B & C, instead of mine being C. Still I suppose people will, begin to

associate C with chief and cosiest etc. in time.

Nothing like being conceited is there?

I must buy some things to go with the green plush suite you are going to buy after the war. I shall always remember how you admired the one at Bonnyrigs! (?) My goodness, I always felt I wanted to sit on the floor didn't you. One sort of instinctively regarded it as a museum piece, with the notice, (PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH). One was sort of afraid of the moths being disturbed, or the death watch beetles running out & it crumbling into dust.

A thought flashed through my mind and here is a diagrammatical representation of it. I bet you don't get it. The clues are as follows.

F = a stretch of water.

G = bridge over water

A = a road through a cutting.

B = a fair ground.

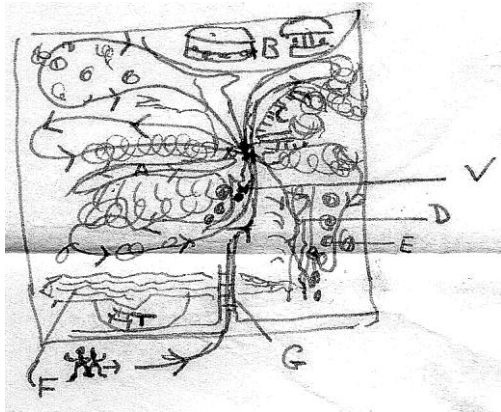
C = an enclosure with wire fence round it.

D = a ditch with line of hawthorne trees down one side of it.

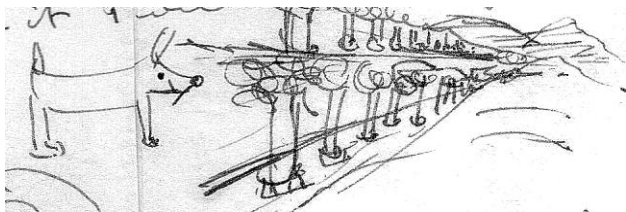
E = one of the hawthorne trees.

V = a large tree with a seat on it.

T = a diving board



I'll leave the rest to you, but I am OK now
it must have been psychological factors, now absent.
If you don't see it I will explain after the war.



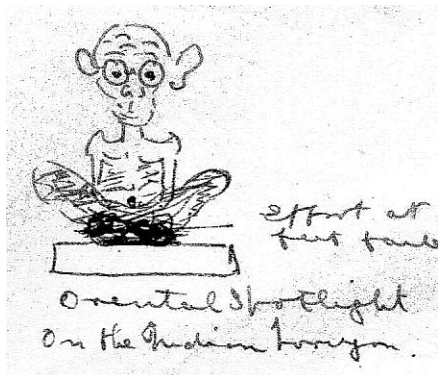
Saw the film
Dumbo the other day.
Have you seen it? Very
amusing although not as
good as Pinocchio (?) in my opinion.



Butterflies. This place can produce an
amazing assortment at this time of the year.
Varying in size (?) from a titchy (?) 1/4" to big ones
4 or five inches across, with beautiful markings. Greens,
maroons, blues, yellows etc.

The last film I saw was a wild west film
called Cherokee Strip with Richard Dix. Not a bad
film at all of the wild west. Bad men of the
West. Slick with the six shooter.

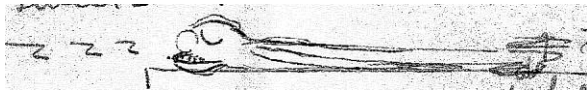




Effort at feet failed.

Oriental spotlight on the Indian ??????

Unfortunately the clocks are being put on 1 hour tonight. So it is really 20 to 12. So Goodnight sweetheart. Sweet dreams. Sorry sweet dreams.



German asleep on the Eastern front completely unaware that an 80 ton Russian tank has passed over him.

This is next day, my madness of yesterday, in which I did those ridiculous drawings has passed. Today it is raining like stink again. I had to roll my trousers up to wade across from my room to the dining room.

I have been very busy today, a cleaning up day, trying to get up to date with all those odd little jobs, which one tends to put off because they are not urgent & turn ones attention on all the more urgent jobs. Now they are all straight, tomorrow I expect a big new influx of fresh cases, as I have had a good clear out my ward.

Well Rommel has started his attack again in todays paper. Lets hope we have had time to build up sufficient defence. The trouble is that its so much quicker for Germany to send new stuff from Italy than for us to send stuff from England or America.

Yesterday I received a letter from Barbara.

Supposed to be for my birthday. Actually it only arrived 5 weeks late, having been posted in the middle of June.

Of course it was really to tell me all about Jim. The marvellous presents, marvellous dances he had taken her to: The marvellous engagement party, the marvellous ring, the marvellous trip to Manchester (?) etc. Still she did put a P.S. saying that on reading the letter through she noticed the constant repetition of the word marvellous, still she didn't care & wasn't going to change it because everything was marvelous. Ah, to be young again quoth I.

My cold is much better thank you. It's a terrible job getting letters off these days. I have to get the unit censor stamp on, which means I have to take them up to hospital, and see the Registrar, as he keeps the stamp & often he is running(?), or I forget the letter or he has locked it up again. Still it does mean cheaper postage. I have just printed some more of my Madras photos. They have all come out well, all though I really hadn't time to wait & get some really interesting elements(?) into the picture. The prospects of me joining the old unit are not quite so good now. I think it has only advanced a bit further into the picture. The later the better. I say as it is still very hot in many parts of India.

The other day in the pictures I saw a well remembered form of a 2d bar of Cadbury's Milk chocolate, & I thought I would like it. (How Much? Quoth I) 10 annas he said, nearly 1/- (shilling) for a 2d bar of chocolate, so I hesitated, & said to myself, well its worth it, just for once, & then said well I am damned if I will be party to 500% profiteering. So I had a cigarette instead. It think it would have choked me.

I bought a tin of boiled sweets, & suck one or two each night. I bet that reminds you of the old Rowntrees clear gums.

Well darling I will not write any more in this letter as I would like to send you some photos. And they weigh heavy. Received some picture posts the other day for which I thank you. Cheerio dear.

All my Love and kisses,

Your devoted h.
Kenneth
