

7 January 1945

Dear Jack & Jane:

Your package of dates (with its aromatic encloure) arrived yesterday. I don't need to tell you how very much it was appreciated. I have been desperately hungry for dates for several months but they rate with nightingals (damn this typewriter) tongues hereabouts. I passed them around the company and found some men who had never heard of them--or rather never eaten them. I also passed around some parched corn which my family sent me and it was voted a marvelous new invention with great cries of "What won't they think of next?" I assured them that my great-grandfather had never taken anything else but jerky on his Indian-killing expeditions and that he had lived to be 93. On my recommendation they tried it and liked it very much. I feel sure that I have now done my share toward enriching the American diet.

I talked with Ruby on the telephone the other night and she can (or maybe has) tell you what I was able to tell her. My new address appears on this letter. If you can't read it, I give it here; it is unfortunately not too different.

Tec 5 Harry E. Jones #39268691

AT Co 355 Inf

APC 89 % Postmaster

New York, N.Y.

I also received as a belated Christmas gift the new Bennett Cerf book. Another in the tones by and about the Woodcott-Harpo Marx-Levant-Gershwin set with a collection of the most moth-eaten gags attributed to the bright lights of the Algonquin crowd (a fair sample is the "Not for pianists" gag) However it passes time pleasantly.

I have been surprised to see so many new books on Henry James lately and hereby nominate him for the "Most Frequently Rediscovered Novelist in American Letters" beating Nathaniel Hawthorne by two New Republic articles and a Colgate PH D thesis.

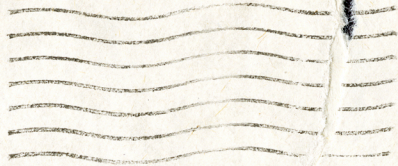
Well, I wish that I had the material for a really entertaining letter tonight but this typewriter has given me a defeatist attitude toward life.

Do write when you can, and meanwhile thanks for your contribution toward a Merry Christmas. Needless to say, I heartily echo the sentiments expressed on your card.

As ever,

Henry

Tec 5 Harry E Jones 3908691
ATC 305 Int
APO 89 90 PM
New York, NY



Dr & Mrs J R Adams
4137 Marlborough
San Diego 4
Calif

Censored by
John D. Cotton
1st Lt. INF