

Holland, Anreeperstraat 135
28 July 1946

Dear Jean,

I thank you very much for the gift-parcel you sent me. I received it four days ago.... first on my birthday. You couldn't have done me more pleasure. I was the most beautiful present I got. You mailed it July 12 and I received it on July 24. What are you an ingenious girl or was it by accident that I received it on my birthday.

My friends and me we have enjoyed the very fine cigarettes, especially the ??? tipped, although Camel was before the war my favorite cigarette. At present we get 40 cigarettes a week, you see it is not much, but we can smoke five a day and on Sunday few.

My mother and my sister were very glad with the hoses. I must thank you out of their name. At present it is going here much better. The food will do, but especially textile is still rare. I was however so happy to get this month ago a coupon for a pair of shoes, that after five years. It was in 1941 when I got my last pair of shoes. But if I said textile is very rare. We got 40 coupons a person, but for a new suit we are needy 60 coupons. You asked me if I can get socks. I have got this year one pair.

You may sent me one pair not more, for you know I can do nothing for you. My size is number 10 ½ . But when you must deny yourself something you may not do it Jean.

When you sent me some one, you must tell me what I can do for your.

Do you like flowers? Then I can send you some Dutch bulbs, tulips, hyacinths or daffadils. What do you like more? Tell it me.

I have had a busy time last month, for we had our first elections after our liberation. I have spoken very often for my party, the Democratic Socialistic party (Labor Party).

Some weeks three or four times. It is one of the reasons why I waited so long before answering your nice letter.

But now it has maked an end, and I promise you I will not be so long.

How is it with your book Jean which you intend to write?

A two month ago I visited the grave of the husband of Agnes. It was kept very well by the people of the Dutch town Margraten. I placed flowers on the grave in name of Agnes.

I have holidays from 18 - 30 August. Then I go to a little watering-place at the side of the North Sea named Noordwijk on the Sea. The place his about 10 miles from the Hague, the xxx of the Netherlands.

Dear Jean, please write soon back. I hope it will be a very long and please tell me something about the last American good books. At present we can buy xxx here. Can you give m names of some good authors!

I end with the best of good wishes for you and yours and much thanks for all.

Yours truly

Herman