

[Transaction begins]

96 Paterson Street  
Jersey City 7, New Jersey  
February 21, 1944

P.F.C. John A. Albanese,  
11<sup>th</sup> Defense Bn – H + S Battery  
c/o F.P.M. – San Francisco, Calif.

Dearest Johnny!

Gosh, but I was happy to receive a letter from you. It came this morning so without any delay I'm answering it. Although you may not know, I have a picture of you. Rather one of you and Walter taken in California I believe! I really and truly like it ever so much, especially since hearing from you. It's too bad you and Walt were put into different batteries however I hope you both stay together. By that I mean, on the same island.

I can hardly wait to get that bracelet made of shells which Walt is sending home. It really will be something to save. Taking it for granted that you'd like me to describe myself, here goes! Well, I've just about got one foot in the grave as I have hit the 19 mark. Yes I'm 19 and fancy-free. What a life! Seriously, though, as you may have gathered from the picture of Walt's, I'm blonde, blue eyes and medium height and weight. That's that.

Well, honey, I wish I knew from what city you come for then perhaps I could tell you what's going on there. At any rate Jersey City and New York are about the same as ever. And we poor girls (am I kidding?) still go skating, bowling and to dances occasionally when we're lucky to get a male partner. However that is seldom.

Sometimes the girls and I go to "Gay Blades" in N.Y.C. around Times Square and we roller-skate. However, honey, the place is crowded with sailors [sic], but no Marines. In fact, we hardly ever see any Marines. That's a shame for everybody loves a leatherneck.

I realize you boys have very little time to write, Johnny, so I'll therefore write you regularly anyway. However, I hope and pray my next letter is a little more interesting for at the moment things are pretty dull here.

Take care of yourself and give my love to Walter if, as and when you see him. Also take some of my love for yourself.

Well, write soon darling!

Love & Kisses,

Corinne

(P.S.—Walter Blodgett's sister just in case.)

[Transcription ends]