[Transcription begins]
96 Paterson St.
Jersey City 7, N.J.
Dec. 12/44

J.A. Albanese 527287
11th A.A. Artry. Bn—Light A.A. Gp.
U.S.M.C. F Battry.
c/o F.P.O., Calif.

My darling Johnny: —

Right now the wind is howling outside and golly I shiver when I think of it! We are having gales, snow flurries, rain etc! Last night my umbrella, purse and hat blew away—and I'm not kidding. I chased them and got them though. How are things with you? I hope alright!

Here is some news for you, or so I think it is interesting to you! You probably know the following fellows for they were with Walt at one time and so this is the latest report! "Carbone is with the Second Division—Baron was shot up sea going and is now stateside at a hospital—Manner is in a Replacement outfit and MacCulany is a Combat M.P." I'm passing this information on to you in case you know the fellows!

Yes, I agree with you that the Marines always got the toughest "jobs" in the Pacific while the army had it easier, up to Leyte! At Leyte, the Army has their hands full! The 77th Division even had some hand-to-hand fighting there! At any rate, the Marines usually get the hard invasions! I'll never forget Tarawa as long as I live! I cried like anything during the warfilm "Tarawa" and at newspaper pictures! Enough of this for I'm trying to cheer you—not depress you.

Yes, honey, I do believe you that you were not snowing me! Your explanation is very convincing! Neither of us drink! Surprising for most people do today! My brother never smoked or drank etc. before he went in the service, except occasionally perhaps! Now I think he smokes a great deal, right?

Golly, you must think I'm quite an experienced girl on the art of love! Why? Honestly, I couldn't teach you anything and especially after looking at your picture, your eyes seem to say "what I don't know isn't worth knowing!" Time will tell who is the faker anyway so why worry now! Perhaps we both are telling the truth! In that case, let's join the "Book of the Month Club" so that we can keep occupied!

I laughed, as did my mother and Walter's "Super-Girl" Kathy when I read the portion of your letter about Walt and the U.S.O. Club! I had to let them hear about it for it is so typically Walt! Before I finished even reading that paragraph Kathy told me what it was about! You see, Walt does not like to wait in line unless absolutely necessary. We all

know that and thus it did not surprise us when you said that Walt decided he wasn't hungry after all! What did he do then? Go back to his camp? From your description of the coffee, he didn't miss much, eh? So you were watching the blonde at the U.S.O! I guess you had enough competition being all the fellows probably were admiring her! After all, a girl is quite a thing in the Pacific! I didn't know that young girls went overseas, besides entertainers and servicewomen! Wish I could get the post of serving at a U.S.O. in the Pacific!

Yes, Johnny, you were right to send me the colored photo for I really adore it! I wrote you a previous letter about how much I like your photos—and you! I think you look wonderful and you are just as I had imagined in every detail! I have both pictures framed now and they are staring at me as I write! I wish you were as close in person! Anyway, I think the photos are wonderful!

Honey, you spell wonderful so don't bother apologizing! In fact, I should for I scribble so and make many errors. I guess most people make errors when writing social letters! After all we're only human and thus we are not infallible!

Now aren't you the wise one! So you'll take me rowing and throw away the oars! Hmm, well I think it would be a very interesting experience—but after all you are a man soo—maybe it would not be such a good idea! However it is romantic. Honey, I'm switching to the next page now!
[Page break]

I should not have written on the other side of #3 as this paper is too fine!

In your letter you said you hoped your pictures didn't disillusion me! Now, honey, how could they do that! Anyway, I've been writing to you nearly a year now without a picture so you see in the first place, I like your personality! You should not let thoughts like that enter your mind, especially being you're very attractive!

My girlfriend Katherine gave a surprise birthday party for me last Saturday night! All my girlfriends were there! They had quite a job getting me to it for I ask so many questions. I had a swell time in spite of my age!! Walt sent home $5.00 for me so I bought a lovely dress that I've been admiring! It also was necessary! It is very pretty so whenever I wear it, I know it is Walt's gift to me! You probably can realize how much it means to me for I love my brother very much! My girlfriend was very sweet to give the party! Everybody was wonderful to me—especially my family!

Nothing else to say, except so' long, God Bless you and Good Luck!

Love & Kisses
Corinne.

(I sent a card for
Xmas so I hope you get it!)
Merry Xmas & Happy New Year [Transcription ends]