

begins)

(Transcription

96 Paterson St.  
Jersey City 7, N.J.  
April 23/45

My dearest Johnny: —

Well, honey, things are certainly popping where you are, so all I can say is that I hope you're well and may God Bless & Protect You.

We only found out last week that the 6<sup>th</sup> Division was in Okinawa—I don't know where our eyes were when reading the papers previously. We knew of the battle but not of your participation in it so as soon as we did read of it, we searched our cellar to get all the old papers out so we could read up on it. By "we" I mean my family. I knew something was up because we hadn't heard from Walt in nearly two months, nor you. I hope Walt is okay.

Getting off that subject, I'll now get back to your letter. Golly, I was glad to hear that you and Walt met up in Guadalcanal. Lucky for you that you picked him out of the crowd in the theatre. How were the Red Cross Girls? Walt sent us 2 pictures of Red Cross girls—Charlotte and I think Jean. I wonder if they're the same ones you saw. So you beat Walt at Ping Pong. That evens the score now or does it?

I'm glad you heard from your brother. If things go as well as expected in Europe, he'll be home soon. You explained very nicely the duties of sea-going Marines so thanks heaps. Now the funny part—The sailor (my cousin) whom I wanted to inform of these duties has not been around to hear them for he and my girlfriend broke their tentative engagement and he hasn't been around since.

I went skating last week and had a very nice time, but had I known then that you and Walt were going through a battle, I never would have enjoyed it.

Apr.

25

My cousin George, I hear, was shot in the arm on Okinawa. Another friend of mine is in Okinawa, only he's with the Army. His name is Tom Mc Comb and he's quite a good friend of Walt's. Anyway we think Tom is there.

Well, honey, I received your two pictures and I just loved them. The one of you alone I have in my wallet and the one of you & Lee Lyle I have in my album. You look very well and, as usual, very attractive to me. I think you look very sweet and I mean that, although you may not like my description. But you also are rugged looking which all adds up to One Swell Man.—Right?

I hope you'll overlook my change of stationery and any mistakes. No, I have not been snowing you in my letters. I've always written you sincerely, honestly.

I like you for you're truthful and frank. In your letter you told me that you liked me via mail but did not love me and then you asked if I understand what you mean. Well I definitely do understand and you are very right. Had you said you loved me, I probably would not have believed it for it wouldn't be logical. You have good sense, Johnny, and I respect you for it. I hope when we meet, Cupid does step in but time will tell.

I suppose you know by now that I'm working in the Hotel Plaza in Journal Square, J.C. as a Private Secretary to the manager who is son-in-law of the owners. The office is very modern and nice. Jo. Sq. is only 8-10 minutes from my home. Nice?

Honey, I know you can't write much so don't worry about answering. I presume you're Catholic but anyway last Sunday I lit a candle in church for you, my brother & cousin, and I always say prayers.

You'll notice this letter was written on different days so that's another reason for it sounding jumbled. In the beginning, we had not heard from Walt, but the next day or so we received a letter from him in which he told of George. He also said he saw you. By the way, Okinawa is considered one of the toughest battles and thus it's in all the papers. We're saving the clippings because they are important to us.

Last night, a rumor spread that Himmler<sup>1</sup> surrendered unconditionally to U.S. & England but some will not be accepted until Russia is notified by Himmler. The end of German war is expected any day now so keep your chin up. It's my dearest hope and opinion that Japan will crack up soon thereafter.

I'm going to see a Broadcast in N.Y.C. tomorrow night. "The Better Half" with Ruffner. It sounds good. Nothing else to report for now so I'll say so long for now & God Bless You.

Love,  
Corinne (Transcription ends)

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<sup>1</sup> **Heinrich Luitpold Himmler** (7 October 1900 – 23 May 1945) was commander of the Schutzstaffel (SS) and one of the most powerful men in Nazi Germany and the Nazi hierarchy. Shortly before the end of the war, he offered to surrender all of Germany to the Allies if he was spared from prosecution as a Nazi leader. Later in 1945, Himmler committed suicide with cyanide when he became a captive of the British Army after Germany had lost World War II.