

June 13 th 1945.

Dear Frank:-

Received your nice letter a few days ago, and was very glad to hear from you. I feel I should have written sooner in case you were moved, but I'd be glad to have you miss it, if the reason was your coming home.

The thought of having to finish the job in the Pacific theatre, must have put a damper on your joy at the victory over there. Please God it will not take too long. I notice in Louis' letters lately more talk of getting home than ever before. That should help to reconcile you boys in Europe, to know that the boys in the Pacific are happy to think you are coming to help them, so they too can come home.

I am glad you heard from Bob from Italy, and if you do have the letter you mentioned at home, I hope you will bring it with you when you come to see us. He never mentioned anything in our letters about being in action except to say, "we infantry boys have been busy with things pertaining to the war effort," or something equally

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indefinite. I think of him so much, of what he must of gone through at Anzio, and yet his letters never gave a hint of it. I am reading Ernie Pyle's book, "Brave Men," and I have learned more of what actually happened, than I ever knew before.

It is true Frank, that as you say, "The picture memories almost disappear of the ones we love." But I find it a great help to look at the actual pictures I have of Bob and Lou. We ~~also~~ always took lots of snapshots, and now they are such a comfort to me. I can usually recall just how they looked at a certain time, by going over the pictures. Were it not for them, I'm afraid their dear faces would soon be very indistinct in my mind. It's hard to believe, but it's very true. But also, the happy memories of the years gone by will never fade.

We are very grateful for your kindness in having the Masses said for Bob and John. That kind priest sent me the cards, and I sent John's to his family. May God reward you by bringing you home safe and soon.

I don't believe I told you that the Kucherj's had a double loss. John's brother died in a German prison camp. They are the only family in

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Graville to have suffered the loss of two boys.

I sincerely hope all your dreams may come true. You and your lovely girl are equally fortunate I think, in having each other. Will look forward to seeing you both in the near future. I certainly hope you will be more fortunate than I am.

Of course he is only nineteen, but he had been going with a girl since early high school days and he at least hoped it was a permanent attachment. She wrote him as usual, and then without any warning told him she was engaged to another boy. We all felt badly for him, but he said if he could stand it to lose Bob, nothing else could hurt him too much. So he realized of course it was better it happened now, than later.

Will close now, with all good wishes for you,
May God bless you and keep you safe.

Sincerely
Mrs Roche.

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