

"D-DAY"

6 Jun 44

Dear Mother & Dad:

It's really come, hasn't it - the day we've waited & waited for - the beginning of the end, please God. And it leaves me feeling absolutely chilled - as though in the face of anything so big & so awful my chattering little thoughts are stupid and futile. It's all had a sobering effect on everybody - everyone, on the radio, in papers, etc., realizing the only thing we can do now is pray - at long last, most of us, I think, are on the verge of tears & it's not too difficult to imagine why: the tension is over & we finally know we can start to hope, it's really the first step on the long road home, the sober knowledge that so many, who are paving the road home for us will never get there, & that already, in the past 12 hours, boys who have trained & waited for months & years, have already died. It's so cruel that they'll never see what they've

accomplished or know how much they're
thankful & loved for it. And you know
how lucky we are - I can stay here, Joe
over & back, Alfred & in the ground crew,
& Jamie on shore duty.

To get down to everyday - first,
I hope a slight delay in my account won't
inconvenience you, Mom. Both Nancy &
Nancy missed payday so I skelld out
\$30 - but you can count on the \$10
after supplementary pay on June 15. And
I guess we'll have to forget the shoes -
can't afford. Am almost afraid I'll
have to ship Ronny & Betty.

Incidentally, Nancy has finished
her training. I doubt she'll be up
our way but have given her our
phone & address + an invitation
for a beer at 244 if she gets ~~to~~
North anytime in the future. She's
hard to describe - quiet & reticent -
but a wonderful gal & I hope

you meet her.

That War clipping made my blood
 boil. If you ever hear any damn fool
 agitating for the War age limit to be
 lowered to 18 I hope you'll get an your
 soap-box against it. It's now 20 &
 even that is merely scraping the bottom.
 It's no bunk that adolescent years
 are fairly difficult ones in adjustment.
 And the **A** is certainly no place to
 try & make that adjustment + sub-
 jecting a girl to the rigid discipline &
 training, new life, disappointments,
 boredom etc. It can't be done
 without damage some place. And
 if ever I hear of your signing any
 age waiver for Johnny I shall
 know you're out of your mind.
 It's bad enough that the boys must
 meet these problems. Let's save
something & build on after the war!
 If ever you have Jimmy's

Letter from I⁴ you I'd like a copy. It
must be good. What did Sammie
finally decide to do?

Have neglected the boys in
the past week or so. We're finally
looking down here now & don't
often feel like doing anything.

All day have imagined Paf
pestered up against the radio &
wishing I could be there to discuss
was done with him.

No more news or gapes
So. good night & 30!

Love & ^{extra} prayers
Dad.

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