

Sidney Diamond to Estelle Spero, June 7, 1944

Image

June 7, 1944 428

Darling,

The news of the continental invasion is the primary source of conversation. You probably have had yourself stuffed with the news etc. consequently we need not go into it — I heard the report during a movie in the hospital — Picture was stopped — ~~for~~ news announced — 'Stelle — there were no cheers — no shouts — we all sat still — we'd fought — we'd made head heads — — our was a deep sympathy — a silent prayer — "Good Luck brother — good luck!!" — Three weeks in this hospital ~~have~~ passed. Three more to go — Ugh!!

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(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09120.428)

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Life in Ward 4B continues along its
same uneventful lines. I received your
seeds and books. "Canoe Verte" and
"One Whirl" — Look — "One Whirl" or
no "One Whirl" any guy that spells
Sidney + Sydney doesn't get my respect —
He started with four stakes against
him. — Really it was excellent. Remind
me never to suggest a book to you —
Go ahead, select the one you like —
It's uncanny, somehow you are able
to satisfy me in everything — I enjoyed
"Canoe Verte" — After reading the
crummy (not crummy) novels in the
Ward it was a most welcome change. —
Oh, my sweet — books in the South

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Pacific are a rarity. (particularly good books) — as a result every book is passed from soldier to soldier until worn through — Now — you go ahead and underline boldly certain pertinent passages. — okay, okay — so you undermine my morale — I'm used to it — Holy smokes you'll have the whole South Pacific thinking I get books from ~~as~~ ~~with~~ a fifth or sixth columnist! — ~~_____~~ humm — me? I'll have my gestapo agents investigate your past history. Already you are lost — only by association with me have you shown your hand! — Now you can wear a long, black, shirley gown and play my own personal espionage agent. — ~~too~~ Look, I

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fully appreciate the assortment of candy
sent. — as a matter of fact I enjoyed ~~it~~
it (but I won't tell Estelle) — but
where's my fruit cake ??? —
my body is wasting, my ~~the~~ tongue
drying, lips are cracked — I will
be fed by tube — and as I draw
my last feeble gasps I'll ~~murmure~~
~~so~~ for posterity to know — "fruit
Cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake,
~~fruit cake, fruit cake~~ — ah-ah !!! — " Show
on you !!! — and he was such a nice
boy too !!! — and make sure that
cake is soaked well with rum —
ah-ah-ah — a -- ah —
Enclosed find satisfactory arguments
for your not waiting for me — Except

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for the practical jobs you're in for most
of the rest —

I love you
your,
Sid

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Transcript

June 7, 1944

Darling,

The news of the continental invasion is the primary source of conversation. You probably have had yourself stuffed with the news etc. consequently we need to not go into it - I heard the report during a movie in the hospital - picture was stopped - [struck] news announced - 'Stelle - there were no cheers - no shouts - we all sat still - we'd fought - we'd made beachheads - - ours was a deep sympathy - a silent prayer - "good luck brother - good luck!!" -

Three weeks in this hospital have passed. Three more to go - Ugh!!

Life in Ward 4B continues along its same uneventful lives. I received your seeds and books "Conope Veite" and "One Whirl" - Look "One Whirl" or no "One whirl" any guy that spells Sidney - Sydney doesn't get my respect - he started with four strikes against him. - Really it was excellent. Remind me never to suggest a book to you - Go ahead, select the one you like - its unnecessary, somehow you are able to satisfy me in everything - I enjoyed "Canope Veite" - After reading the crummy (not crummy) novels in the ward it was a most welcome change - Oh, my sweet - books in the South Pacific are a rarity (particularly good books) - As a result every book is passed from soldier to soldier until worn through - Now - You go ahead and underline boldly certain pertinent passages. - Okay, okay - so you undermine my morale - I'm used to I - Holy smokes you'll have the whole South Pacific thinking I get books from [Struck] a fifth or sixth columnist! - - [illegible] I'll have my gestapo agents investigate your past history. Already you are lost - Only by association with me have you shown your hand! - Now you can wear a long, black, slinky gown and play my own personal espionage agent - [struck] look, I fully appreciate the assortment of candy sent. - As a matter of fact I enjoyed [struck] it (but I won't tell 'Stelle) - but where's my fruitcake??? - My body is wasting, my [struck] tongue drying, lips are cracked - I will be fed by tube - and as I draw my last feeble gasps I'll murmur for prosperity to know - "Fruit Cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake, fruit cake - - - - - - - oh-oh!!!! - " Shame on you!! - and he was such a nice boy too!! And make sure that cake is soaked well with rum - ah - ah - ah - a- -ah-

Enclosed find satisfactory arguments for your not waiting for me - Except for the practical joke you're in for most of the rest -

I love you

Your

Sid