#### Image

July 1949 Dailing Que could cleasify today as D'day just plain "D'incouraging. To start it all off we had a visit from the duspector serverals Department les usual enery badig gree around biting their naile and worrying about inferorable reports. The suggery sergeent avaniel about his records, the deale his files, the coale his settler, the motor sergeant his tucks - encybody was worried -However they when I so interested this times in administration but morale and receation activities - I as noting office for my company without a barrage of questions about voting procedure - that do this they paked through recreation ficilities, wonted to prowthis and that loster at mere holls, day roome, walleyball courts \_ ste. \_\_\_\_ that arked oner with I drivered your channing letter of the 12th which about yeart me up for a Section eight discharge into a booling hatch I don't know exactly how that sounded to you but if I recall correctly wrate something like this yen are jourely platonic of on undoutted a poo I to marry you!

Sidney Diamond to Estelle Spero, July 27, 1944. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09120.465)

attempt at herenor har a definite attempt - There we nothing that should have been construct an my feeling anything else but the fordest and ardent emotions in your direction - who the hell ever heard of a juy manjung for Flatonie " reasons I don't comprehend this ing deal "I might just as well have left it aff had? - now you lonow, #\_\_\_\_ All d'ade is \_\_\_ did you -or didn't vyn \_\_\_\_ that still not clean a tes far an the st called "interest is concerned \_\_\_\_ well let not get subjective Soning to hell ? - oh - things like setting all night with a hald and talking when you know she was interested in atthe things or when some nice laid says " I'd like to plant you in my back your and put a fince around you " - and you say - " forry ; I already grow in someone elses gorden and theres' a very big Jeach around me "\_\_\_\_ Shere 's the time when you roam the streets - lonely and. digusted when you want to see how it feels to get stending durate \_\_\_\_ when the months away from some legin to grow at your nul sturk of the deal and the moon of the mounded

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make you feel awfully sorry for yoursey - Values change, thoughts are shattered, decome become høger for ift in the distance \_ so for - so very ner for \_ The times when your mind says. "quit"\_ the times when you'd laugh at a "quit"\_ the times when you'd laugh at a picture and all the while there's a lungy loveliness banging at your insides - How have you helped ? - furt by being around, writing saying nice things - joking - yes even scolding you're been good to me and good for me - I don's I low to say this because - well it down it need saying - your know how I feel alient you ----Well anyway - to get on with the story of "D" day - . In the afternoon I gave a two how lecture on the moster to an infanting outfit - By now I can rattle the. stuff off like a clucking her - the lestine too place in a charged - it was bot - by the time an how and a half was not al was getting that streined tone to my woil - almost close to orging my mouth & ligo where day and study a white form formed in the any of my lipso Albing is all right but not morathow in black-black.

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mybe d'understand - maybe d'don't -il don't feel that il lanow what is going on letween a but something ages acutty is and well - let the - aboy - d're get most of that coming so d'll not the complain \_ but sarcosm Well luit definitely ! I love you very much

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# Transcript

## 27 July 1944

#### Darling-

One could classify today as "d" day - just plain "D"iscouraging. To start it all off we had a visit from the Inspector Generals department. As usual everybody goes around biting their nails and worrying about unfavorable reports. The supply sergeant worried about his records, the clerk his files, the cook his kitchen, the motor sergeant his trucks - everybody was worried - However they weren't so interested this time in administration but morale and recreation activities - I was voting officer for my company withstood a barrage of questions about voting procedure – [struck] then they poked through recreation facilities, wanted to know this and that - looked at mess halls, day rooms, volleyball courts - etc. - That ordeal over with [struck] I received your charming letter of the 17th which about put me up for a Section eight discharge in a loony watch –

I don't know exactly how that gag sounded to you but if I recall correctly I wrote something like this – "my feelings for you are truly platonic I only want to marry you!" -Undoubtedly a poor attempt at humor but a definite attempt - there was nothing that should have been construed as my feeling anything else but the fondest and ardent emotions in your direction - who the hell ever heard of a guy marrying for "platonic" reasons –

I don't comprehend this ring deal – "I might just as well have left it off huh? - now you know." - All I ask is - did you - or didn't you - it's still not clear – as far as the so-called "intent" is concerned - well let's not get subjective –

Going to hell? - oh - things like sitting all night with a babe and talking when you know she was interested it in other things or when some nice bird says "I'd like to plant you in my back yard and put a fence around you" - and you say "Sorry I already grow in someone elses garden and there's a very big fence around me" - There's the time when you roam the streets lonely and disgusted when you went to see how it feels to get stinking drunk - when the months away from home begin to gnaw at your mind - There's the time when the stink of the dead and the moans of the wounded make you feel awfully sorry for yourself - Values change, thoughts are shattered, dreams become haze far off in the distance - so far - so very very far - The times when your mind says "quit" - The times when you'd laugh at a picture and at and all the while there's a hungry loneliness longing at your insides - How have you helped? – Just by being around, writing - saying nice things – joking - yes even scolding - you've been good to me and good for me - I don't know how to say this because – well - it doesn't need saying - you know how I feel about you –

Well anyway - to get on with the story of "D" day - in the afternoon I gave a two hour lecture on the mortar to an infantry outfit - By now I can rattle the stuff off like a clucking hen - The lecture took place in a chapel - it was hot - by the time an hour and a half was up I was getting that strained tone to my voice - almost close to crying - my mouth + lips were dry and stedy a white foam formed in the corner of my lips - talking is all right but not marathon in blahblah –

Maybe I understand - maybe I don't - I don't feel that I know what is going on between us but something apparently is and well - let's quit - - scolding, misunderstanding, etc. – okay- I've got most of that coming so I'll not [strike] complain - but sarcasm – No!! - but definitely! –

I love you very much - so there? Your Sid