

Sunday, June 10th, 1945

My dearest Billy,

I received your nice letter with great joy. I heard that Bob came to Nice for two days, I heard it from Christiane and I am surprised that he did not come to the house to give me news about you. But still, I hope one day you will come back on leave for seven days, but unfortunately, seven days pass by very quickly.<sup>8</sup> The day you come will be a big joy for me. This afternoon, I went to a dance at the Red Cross, I was quite sad dear Billy. Oh how I loved dancing with you. Have you received my little photos? I have a big one that I will give you the day you come to Nice. In the evening, I never forget to look at our dear little star, and it seems to me that it shines brighter than the others. My dearest Billy, I can't wait to see you again, I hope it will be very soon. I spend my days all alone with my mother, I don't speak to the soldiers, and at the Red Cross, I escape as soon as the dance is over. Mother always comes to get me at the exit. Mother is, at the same time, my best friend, and we often speak of you. She also accompanies me to my singing lessons. Dearest Billy, now I leave you with a lot of regret. Mother joins me in sending you our deepest love, give my very best to Bob, and for you, Billy dear, have all my love and a thousand kisses.

Jany

P.S. Answer me quickly

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<sup>8</sup>There are many different types of military leaves or permissions. Military leaves can span from 3 days to over 30 days. However, during the war, soldiers were not encouraged to take extended leaves. In the letters, it seems that Billy could take week-long leaves so that he could visit Jany and her family. Military leaves are standard practice of military armed branches such as the Army, Air Force, the Navy, and the Marine Corps. Leaves must be authorized by the ranking officers and one may not choose to simply take leave randomly or be absent and count those days towards a leave. Every leave must be approved and systematically recorded in order to eliminate opportunities for misconduct. For example, in one of the letters Jany asks Billy if he has talked to his Captain again about another potential military permission, Jany even adds her own letter of intent for the Captain to further beg for a military leave. There are 9 different types of military leaves but the ones mentioned in the letters refer specifically to War/National Emergency leaves or Permissive Temporary Duty leaves which refer to leaves that involve traveling between military locations.