

Wednesday, July 11th, 1945

My dearest Billy,

I still have yet to receive a letter from you, I hope that it will not be much longer. Today, Mr. and Mrs. Lodin came to spend the day at the house where we only spoke about you. Yesterday evening, I did not go to the firework display because it was raining a little. At this moment, I am in the process of preparing some singing dresses for the winter. Billy, darling, how fast they passed, the four beautiful days where you were next to me, we were all so happy. Also, we have not forgotten you, and we are impatiently awaiting your return, because Billy darling, I hope that you will come back to Nice before returning to your dear family. So, this time when you will leave us, you will not have the same sadness that you had when you left us before. It will no longer be a sad farewell since you will be happy to find your family and your country. But, Billy darling, I hope that even over there, you will write me. The letters will no longer be from Italy where you tell me about your pain, but they will be letters where you will tell me about your joys since I hope that even in your country, you will not forget me completely and that you will want to still write me.¹⁸ Mother, Aunty and Uncle Lodin are sleeping, I am writing you and after I will read a book or maybe I will sew. Billy darling, I leave you for today. Mother, the Lodins, and Lolo send you their best wishes and their deepest regards. Give my best wishes to Bob and for you Billy darling, my love and a thousand kisses.

JANY

¹⁸For most of Billy's time in Europe, he spent it in various cities in Italy. After disembarking in Naples on September 22, 1943, the 442nd regiment was assigned with fighting through the German defensive lines and pushing back against enemy resistance. The Germans believed that they could halt the Allied forces in Italy which is why Billy's regiment was sent there. The regiment from 1943-1944 made their way up the Italian coast forcing the Germans to retreat to Livorno from then on the Army pulled the 442nd out of Italy and based them in the south of France where Billy eventually met Jany in Nice. Traveling between Nice and Italy, the 442nd regiment was singlehandedly responsible for rescuing the Lost Battalion in late 1944 followed by many diversionary attacks attempting to break up German forces. Many of the cities mentioned in the letters are either in Italy or France.