

Wednesday, August 29th, 1945

My darling Billy,

This afternoon I am writing you in coming back from a swim, all four of us where there. It had been more than a month since I had gone swimming. The water was good but there was no any sun. People say that I swam well. I know in any case that I went far into the open waters and when you come on leave (“please Captain”) I will swim faster than you. But I think I may be bragging a little. Billy darling, I have not told you yet that I did receive your letter from the 21st containing a photo and an envelope where I found cards with various designs from the program of the Paris Opera which is playing “La Bohème” featuring the big star Jany Lore and a magnificent drawing depicting the different stages of our love. Billy darling, you are really an artist and I assure you that all of this made us laugh very much. I want to thank you by giving you a million kisses. I am very content that you received my letters since my return to Nice, the mail takes a very long time to arrive to us. Your captain does not seem to want to understand that you wish to come back to Nice very soon to see your little Jany. Since he does not want to listen to you, I am sending you a letter for him. I think that maybe I will have more success. I see that in Livorno there is no lack of distractions, the cinema, concerts, swimming, etc. Since you saw some new impressions, I hope that you will remember them and that during your next leave you will do them again for us. Besides, we will put together a whole program of Music Hall with the big stars, Billy, Gilbert and Jany for the benefit of the poor American soldiers who no longer have cigarettes, chocolate or chewing gum which the French have all taken.⁵⁴ It is Uncle that gave me this idea. But my darling Billy, I only kid and I have not even told you yet that I love you but maybe I do not have to tell you so often. Mother, Aunty, Uncle and Charley send you their best wishes and all of their regards. And me, my darling Billy with all my love, a million kisses xxxxxxx *I love you*

Jany

⁵⁴Many supplies such as chewing gum, cigarettes and chocolate were rationed during the war. For citizens, many food and clothing items were rationed on a point system. Oftentimes civilians were standing in long lines waiting for their small amount of whatever was being provided. Similarly, as the war raged on supplies for soldiers decreased leaving less and less supplies available for the soldiers.