

Nice, A.M. - Tuesday, March 20th, 1945

My dear Bill,

I went to the Red Cross Dance last Sunday– I saw Johnnie and he told me you had gone... That was too bad for me, because all the last week I had hoped to see you again, and I had been waiting for you at my home. But you did not come and now I know I can't see you again before<sup>1</sup> a long time... and I can't know where you are going...! I saw, too, André and Odette and as you may think, we talked about you, about Tom and we were very sad and miserable. –Andrée gave me a small picture of you, took<sup>2</sup> I think, in Beaulieu when you are smoking pipe.<sup>3</sup> She is a very nice girl and she please me so much with her giving. So I can have your picture in my hand bag. I have to thank you too for the great one you gave for me to my mother when I was in my bed (how angry I was with<sup>4</sup> my bad cold!!!). I like it very much. When I know if you can receive my letters—that is my anxiety—I'll send you mine. Jacques has been quite successful in his competition of architecture. He is at home now, but just for a few days because he is going to army and he will leave us on the next thursday. At first he goes to Marseille. We hoped he could have a few days for rest because his competition was very tiring, but... *c'est la guerre*<sup>5</sup>... a such terrible thing! My cousin Robert is in Nice now. He fought in Lybie, Tunise, Normandie, Alsace and so many of his friends died in the battle...<sup>6</sup> Do you remember the show we saw both together? He was there... Hot, sand, bombs, fever, everything come from the Hell!<sup>7</sup> But now we are very courageous because the end is near. –God make this war the last!!! My dear Bill, don't laugh at my so many mistakes. I do my best. So, don't

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<sup>1</sup>*for*

<sup>2</sup>*taken*

<sup>3</sup>Beaulieu-sur-Mer or Beaulieu, which translates to Beautiful Place on the Sea, is a seaside commune located on the French Riviera between Nice and Monaco. It is famously known for being the location where General de Gualle wrote his speech of the liberation of Nice. During the war, the commune was used for its hospital and its homes which hosted the first Free French Officer Division. Today it is recognized for its beautiful and serene beaches and its “Beautiful Age” architecture.

<sup>4</sup>*because of*

<sup>5</sup>*this is war*

<sup>6</sup>Fighting broke out in Northern Africa in 1940 when the Royal Air Force mounted a series of bombing missions against Italian targets living in Libya and Tunisia. In December of 1942, the Allied forces launched Operation Torch which meant that there would be a series of Allied invasions in French North Africa in order to pressure the Axis forces (refer to footnote 9) and force their retreat.

<sup>7</sup>in reference to the conditions and atrocities of the war

despair<sup>8</sup> me or the next time I'll condemn<sup>9</sup> you to write in french. Give my regards to Tom and all your friends. I am hoping your early reply— All my family send you his<sup>10</sup> kind regard. I remain your sincere little french friend

Suzanne

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<sup>8</sup>*make fun of me*

<sup>9</sup>*scold*

<sup>10</sup>*their*