

Vichy, August 17th, 1945

Dear Billie,

War is over!... no more “nazis” in the world and the hope of a long, long peace... Let us not worry about calculating for how long we shall not hear guns again. War is over, and very soon everybody will be at home. I think of you, Billie, waiting without patience to be back in America. I think of your sister waiting her husband. So, their parting haven't been very long—always too long for new married... Billie, I have been waiting for your letters a long time. Two weeks ago I just received your very very short note and that's all for one month and a half! That's too bad and I should be very angry with you, but war is over and I can't help me writing you. Another good news, not very important for the world, but very important for me; I received the white cloth, at last! I'm so glad because it reached me safely and it's very beautiful. Your friend-girl knows perfectly how to choose... exactly as a french girl (!!!) I thank you very kindly, you and your girl-friend. Tell me something about her: where she lives, what she does etc... Don't be surprised of my inquisitiveness, because in France we say: the friends of my own friends are my friends. As I told you in my last letter, my mother and I we have leaved Nice... now we are in Vichy and the next week we go back to Paris. We don't know yet if my brother will be able to go back home, he too, or if he has to stay in army and to go in Germany—⁵⁵ He is now a corporal. He should be a Sergeant, but there were to many to be so. Are you still with your friends, those I met in Nice? How is Tom? Does he receive his daily letter from Andrée? I did not have time to see her before leaving Nice and I hope you will tell me something about her. Billie, I'm not very patient, not at all (is it not too bad for a teacher?) So, as soon as you receive my letter, please answer me quickly, a long letter, for all those you should have written me. My address in Paris is: 36 Rue Boissonade, Paris XIVeme [arrondissement].⁵⁶ But remember, you have to do your best to come and see me at home. Really you can't go back in America without having seen Paris. You should be ashamed to own that to your american friends. And my mother and I we shall be very pleased to see you again. My penmanship is very bad. I hope you can read⁵⁷ me however. I'm in the open air, in a very large and beautiful park close to the river

⁵⁵Germany was the central hub of WWII and was extremely instrumental in Hitler's pursuit of hegemony in Europe. Germany started WWII by invading Poland in 1939. Germany subsequently invaded another 11 countries such as Belgium (1940), France (1940) and Greece (1941) to name a few.

⁵⁶An “arrondissement” is an administrative district of some large French cities. Similar to neighborhoods.

⁵⁷*understand*

“Allier” and I write you on me knees.⁵⁸ That’s very nice but not very comfortable for such an exercise. I wait for your visit or for your letter.

Very sincerely yours,

Suzanne

⁵⁸The Allier is a river located in central France.