

NAME: Bernard

RANK: Second Lieutenant

ORGANIZATION: 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpts are directly from two original wartime letters written by Bernard. These are two of many letters from Bernard in the site curator's possession and more will be transcribed in the future.
- The following excerpts are presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpts aside from an edited racial slur and edited profanity for the protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Bernard writes a girlfriend in the United States:

“March 29th [1945]

Back again old girl after another short move, this one I sure hope is the last. I am really getting tired of this setting up house keeping for only a short period. This time I am living in a cocanut grove rather than a rice patty and at least we have a little shade and occasionally a breeze...Now the time is beginning to tell...and I just plug along from day to day. One of the boys that has already gone home once told me that after seven or eight months you just don't give a d _ m, and I must admit he was right. I am beginning to wonder why we are liberating some of these d _ _ kies...Be good...and don't work to hard. I'll write you again in a few days.

As Ever

Love Bernard”

Bernard writes the same girl again in the United States:

“June 18th [1945]

Recieved your letter yesterday and as always it was swell hearing from you...I knocked myself out yesterday building a floor in our tent. Before this time we were swamped with mud every time it rained and that wasn't to good. So between flying and trying to keep my home up I'm a busy boy. Still waiting for some defenite word on going home but these big shots always hold out. Makes me think that they are stalling this month off. If so I think that I can stand it because I would like my leave to go over into Aug...Gee Im getting anxious to get back and see you.

Just Love

Bernard”

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- Bernard made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
 - **For visual context, this link connects to original wartime footage in the public domain that covers the above time period and Bernard's organization (viewer discretion advised):**
<https://archive.org/details/ADC-4473c>
 - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Bernard's wartime organization, the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (reader discretion advised):**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Marine_Aircraft_Wing