

**NAME:** Neal

**RANK:** Ensign

**ORGANIZATION:** Fleet Air Wing 16

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** American Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Neal. This is the only letter from Neal in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Neal writes a friend in the United States:**

“May 24, 1943

...When I left I expected something like what has happened therefore I was not too surprised to hear that Anna was planning to marry Raymond. It seems strange, but when we are here away from everything and engaged in an issue such as this one, such things as a change of mind on the home front seems rather inconsequential by comparison. Naturally I am greatly disappointed but perhaps it is as you say. It is better to find out now than later.

Thanks again...I'll buy you the tallest drink in town when I make the States again. Thumbs up.

Sincerely,

Neal”

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- Neal made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period and antisubmarine operations (viewer discretion advised):**  
<https://archive.org/details/NewsOfTheDayColor1942H2>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Neal's wartime organization, Fleet Air Wing 16 (reader discretion advised):**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_the\\_Atlantic#South\\_Atlantic\\_.28May\\_1942\\_-\\_September\\_1943.29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Atlantic#South_Atlantic_.28May_1942_-_September_1943.29)