

**NAME:** Howard

**RANK:** Not Available

**ORGANIZATION:** U.S.S. Admiral W. L. Capps

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpts are directly from two original wartime letters about Howard. These are two of many letters related to Howard 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. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Howard, an African American sailor, receives a letter from his wife in the United States:**

“Dec. 29, 1944

I guess you thought that I have forgotten all about you but I have been so tired and also have had a bad cold. First I want to wish you a very merry Christmas & Happy Year. How did you spend your Christmas. I had a very nice one, at least, as well as could be expected without you... We had twelve for dinner. They all left about 9:30... Everybody really enjoyed themselves... For Christmas I got the white dress from you (smiles), a blouse & 'Coty' perfume..., pajamis, dresse for work, shirt from my mother; iron frying pans from your mother, hand towels from your sister..., earrings from... the girl at work..., and stockings from another girl at work... As far as presents goes I think I did pretty good don't you? (smiles). The only thing is that I miss you so very very much. I still haven't gotten any mail yet but I guess it will all come at once. Darling I love you so much and I wish that you were home... Do you think that you will be home after you get back? Oh! Yes. Billie's husband is home from Italy. He has been over seas for 2 ½ years. I know she is having a hot time now (smiles)... Mother and I are on our way to the Christmas play down to the 'Center' so I will write again real soon. I promise not to neglect you again like I have been. (smiles). I keep my promises (smiles).

Your Darling,

Lena.”

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**Howard, an African American sailor, writes his wife above in the United States:**

“April 20, 1945  
U.S.S Adm W.L. Capps  
Fleet. P.O. San Francisco

I received a letter to day which was post marked March 19, 1945...

...If what she said was true should have let it out soon that a month ago. When she went to Washington I

think that is when she got married. Is her husband in the army and if he is, you can just about guess where all of this happen,

I think myself it happen when she was in the wacs...

...I hope that you aren't mad at me, about the phone call, I didn't hang up.

She told me that I couldn't talk any longer than three minutes, so I tried to call you back, but I couldn't get a line through for three hours...

...How did you make out about rasing the rent, are you going to raise it on those people now living in the house I really dont think that they can Pay any more money, but if you think that you can get more go ahead. If they do any damage to the house put them out, because we can't afford to spend any more money as yet...

...Darling the address on the envelope is not my address so please don't write to that address I am sending this one outside off the ship, so when you write, write to the ship because I am still on it, I am now in seattle Washington,

Well darling that is all for now and dont forget that I still love you and just you

Lots of Love

Howard"

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- Howard made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime period film in the public domain that covers the role of the U.S. Coast Guard in the Second World War (viewer discretion advised):** <https://archive.org/details/OnForeignShores>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Howard's wartime organization, the U.S.S. Admiral W. L. Capps (reader discretion advised):** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Admiral\\_W.\\_L.\\_Capps\\_\(AP-121\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Admiral_W._L._Capps_(AP-121))