

Shall write again in a day or two. Y.

9 Holmview,
Omagh.
Saturday, Sept. 29th

Darling Frank, I have just experienced two terrifically exciting days! Yesterday at 10 A.M. the convent phone rang for me & I was hurried across the passages to hear Mr Jones, of Cable & Wireless tell me that you were safe in Australian hands. It was more than decent of him to do this as normally cables are sent by registered post. He asked me for my 12 word message in return & I couldn't proceed further than the word delighted which I must have said 4 times. I gave it up & promised to ring back, so 10 minutes later off went my reply. — the convent was in an uproar — nuns & children were agog with excitement. All know about you & have been praying earnestly this past 4 years. During the past 3 weeks each day some nun would pop in her head to the staffroom & say "I've a hunch Eileen, the news will come to-day". When it did arrive she boldly declared herself physic. To-day I hurried home for lunch at 1 p.m. Dr Lagan (our nearest phone) had 10 minutes before rushed in excitedly to No 9, calling Miss O'Hare — a

Mr Jones of Cable & Wireless is calling. I flew to the telephone & phoned, this time to receive the most wonderful cable in the world. I tried in the short space of 3 minutes to write it down & you should see my shorthand! I've been reading it over & over again the whole afternoon. It was from Manila. I suspect it was sent before yesterday's (from Melbourne) & also I realize yesterday was a general message sent to all relatives. So happy to be rambling on telling you each little detail of my 2 wonderful days — so happy to be set free at last from those damned (excuse) 25 words. Darling how can I tell you all that I have been storing up in my mind & heart these 4 years! I have already gained permission from convent to cross to England & meet your ship — I hope you decide to come by ship — it is so much safer than by air. I have ~~2~~ not been in Belfast since September 5. Mr Jones phoned Spring Villa (27780) & asked Mamma to bring your message direct to Beechwood. I asked him to do this. To-day I phoned & the good news of

2 cables has reached your dear ones. I am writing your father to night also the others. We all have a pack to circulate any news immediately.

A few doors from here lives a simple catholic family, called Cunningham. One of the girls, Kathleen has been in bed for 15 years. She is a Saint & has prayed for you unceasingly. Her brother Sgt. Tommy Cunningham (late of Hong Kong) R.A.M.C. is also in Melbourne. You may come across him. Do make yourself known. He idolized Kathleen. He is a masseur.

My celebration (until you arrive dearest) is taking the form of a visit to Dublin with Mamma. Next Wednesday. Our girls go into Retreat at Loreto on Oct. 3. until Oct 6. Preparations for our wedding are forging ahead. Just wait, my Mamma until you see our bottom drawers!! Frances daughter arrived in mid September. Both are well. I wrote her our news. Felix received Christies card & was delighted. I also received 3 last week. Have I told you yet I love you very much!! Gracious me I feel so excited these times I don't know who I am & what I'm doing!! Still I do know one thing - our marriage will be the happiest ever. Ever your own Eileen

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Beechwood
95 Blifton Rd
Belfast

N. Ireland

MAJOR FRANCIS J. MURRAY

R.A.M.C. (of HAKODATE CAMP)

LIBERATED P.O.W.

AUSTRALIAN BASE P.O.

MELBOURNE

Sender's name and address:-

EILEEN O'KANE,
9 HOLMVUE,
OMAGH,
N. IRELAND

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