

Singapore,

February 15th 1942.

(Sunday.)

My own darling,

It is all over at last and we have surrendered to the Japs unconditionally. The last few hours were awful, silent, but the grandest thing I have ever known was to hear an gun putting up that final barrage. We were silent under the noses of those guns and though the noise was deafening and was unceasing for hours.

This morning I burned all your letters and you know what a heart-break that was to me - your letters with every single word of them so precious to me. I also had to burn a letter I had written to you and another which I had begun. I wrote to you every day during the campaign - sometimes it was only a line but it was something from my heart and with it went all my love. I could not love you any more than I do this evening. It is quiet and peaceful here in the shadow of St. Andrew's Cathedral; we have made a fire and the men are preparing the evening meal. All my confidence goes out here in the grounds and they took time after the very time they have had.

I am a prisoner of war and am wondering what will happen to me. Where shall I be sent and what will happen to me I do not know but I do know that I shall come back again to you soon. Nothing can ever stop me from coming back to you. I love you now as never before. I have never ceased in thanking our great God in keeping me safe - safe for you. I was not afraid once. I always said my duty and many times it was there with shell fire and aerial bombardment. Somehow I always felt that I was not meant to die; I felt that He was watching over me because your had asked Him to do so. I was at Mass this morning at our cathedral and also at communion. The church still stands though many buildings around are in ruins. God bless you Helen.

Monday 16th February - We have not become real prisoners yet and today we were working. We evacuated a hospital of military patients. Singapore presented a strange sight; streets deserted save for little groups of terror-stricken Chinese looting in doorways; Japanese flags waving from almost every point; Japanese sentries at every corner with fixed bayonets. We are still in the Cathedral grounds with other medical units and have not been interfered with in any way. My darling, I was nearly killed today when a huge piece of shrapnel fell at my feet. An ammunition dump exploded accidentally. The boys are cheerful today and the gramophone has been going all the day long. My darling, I actually loved you a little more today.

Tuesday 17th February - The troops were all marched off to the prison camp yesterday, but that was nothing compared with the sad sight I saw today when all the British men, women and children (Europeans) were marched through the streets to their camp. All day long a sad procession of Chinese has paraded along the streets carrying all their belongings on their backs - the tiny children walking for miles under the hot sun. It just made me think I could not bear to watch them at all. We have not been made prisoners yet and are still functioning each day as an ambulance unit. Love you.

Wednesday 18th February - I brought patients today out to the prison camp at Changi and was agreeably surprised to see large bathing parties returning from a dip in the sea! I was reluctant to return to my home in Singapore behind the Cathedral railway. We are wondering when we shall be sent out to the camp too. I do not mind how poor because life is not thrilling here and the washing facilities are poor. I sent you and father a note on January 30th with Mrs. O'Ballaghan and it has reached Colombo already! My constant thought is of you and for you because I know you will be worried about my safety. Oh if I could only let you know by some means that I am alive I should feel happier.

Thursday 19th February - A parade of Japanese tanks today through the city. Some more wrote today but I am glad of it. I thought of you today and loved you all the more. Love

time I look at you my love yours and yours and I wonder how much I shall love you when this war is over.

Friday 20th February My darling, at last I am to become a real Prisoner of War. Early to morning I shall march at the head of my men through the streets and away out to the prison camp about 14 miles away. I never have managed a left in an ambulance car but I wanted to be with the men. Today we are preparing to move. You know that all my kit has been stolen - my Anson blazer, all my military shirts, dressing gown. I still have my crucifix and statue thank God.

Saturday 21st February The long weary march is over and I still love you as I sit under this tree in Changi awaiting a piping hot meal which the boys are cooking in the open. My darling I shall never forget that march as long as ever I live. I was very fit and in good marching condition; however only know what some of the others felt like at the end of the march! We were a weary lot when we reached here - we kept in perfect line the whole way - there was no straggling (and we were the exception). God bless you, Lillian.

Sunday 22nd February I slept in a bed of leaves last night under the trees and oh it was grand. Had the awful experience of missing Mass today due to a mix up between Japanese and our time - the camp is run on Japanese time and that is 1/2 hours different from ours. I had a swim today and now I feel so much cleaner! I love you my darling more to day. My suit is now abandoned and the officers and men scattered all over the camp. It is not really your idea or mine of a prison camp - Europe is being under a roof and it resembles a holiday camp. I am to spend the night with George at his billet.

Monday 23rd February - Have had an awful night with pain in my hip and feet. It seems that my old Rheumatism are coming back again. Why do you love an old man like me with my Rheumatism. I love you my darling.

Tuesday 24th February - Yours truly is now a patient in a prisoner camp hospital with sub-

quite Rheumatism. I had a rotten night and today I had to go off to hospital. "Georgie" was very decent to me. The O.C. of the hospital is Irish; his wife is living in Skelbore, and he lived on Blytonville Rd. once upon a time - name is Mr. Forlane. I saw many familiar faces today.

Wednesday 25th February : The usual sticky night after large doses of Sodii Salicylate! Nice I feel better; thank God for it because it is not good being an invalid when a prisoner of war! Georgie came to see me today and his cheery face was a tonic for me. You will meet him some day,ileen.

Thursday 26th February : I feel grand today thank God. I had a rare feast today of Chicken Soup! I am being spoiled but I still love you. Georgie came again today and gave me a jelly (Chinese); a doctor has promised to make it for me to-morrow. The latter gave me two lovely books of poems by Pasore. You must read them some day my darling; they are wonderful, but not quite as good as my first poems!

Friday 27th February : I was up today and oh how sweet my old pins were! Col. Dawson my former C.O. came to visit me; he had an exciting time away out in an island near Singapore but all the Field Ambulance was safe and sound. The ever faithful Georgie came again. How you darling.

Saturday 28th February : All my aches have gone and I am stronger already. Do you know that I spent 6 weeks in bed in Rawalpindi in February 1940 with "much less severe attack of Rheumatism! The cause of my present bout was sleeping for two weeks under the open sky without a blanket. I used wake in the mornings cold and stiff and covered with thick dew. God bless you my darling.

Sunday 1st March : Was discharged from hospital this afternoon and wound my way on foot to my new ship with dozens of other medical officers. Here I met James McHeilly of Ballymena; O'Driscoll of Cork; and O'Donnell of Dublin! The Irish were in force to visit

at dinner - we were only a few of the crowd! I met James Redington, Harry Donnell, Stone, and
Sickey Doyle - all former acquaintances. The latter pair joined up at Aldershot the same day as I did.
The other two were good friends of mine in India.

Monday March 2nd - Had a dinner today and met heaps of officers whom I knew in Korea
and in Kwantun. I heard of the sad fate of these gallant fellows; of Humphrey Thompson and how
he was probably killed in the boat when his battalion &c. were surrounded. I took things easy
for the rest of the day. I love you my darling.

Tuesday March 3rd - Another move today - this time to the barracks mess. There are 50 of us
all crowded into two small houses but it's grand fun - except for the meals. We live on rice
mostly, but thank God I like rice! We are allowed 1 water bottle per day - and no more. I am still
in love with someone from Springfield Road!

Wednesday March 4th - At last I have found the chapel and it was Fr. Bourke led me to it. I
met him at St. Ann's swimming pagoda this morning and I arranged to meet him at 9.15. The chapel
was in ruins and nothing remained but the altar - no roof, no walls, ^{no seats.} There was Rosary
and a hymn. I went to Confession afterwards and intend going to mass in the morning.
I met my good friend Mr. Winsey today - he looks old and haggard since I left Hong.
His wife is in the same boat as Mrs. O'Callaghan and my note to you.

Thursday March 5th - My darling, I had 3 masses and a Communion all for you this
morning. I was so very happy and so comforted as only He can console. There are three
priests here - Fr. Bourke (Redemptorist), Fr. Litchman (Holy Ghost) and another Jesuit priest -
the latter two are Irish and the former another hawk from Belfast. I was at evening Rosary
as usual. I had two swimmers today with Mr. Healy and D. Donnell - they are my
room mates. O'Donnell is in hospital with rheumatism!

Friday March 6th - This evening after Rosary a tall young man came up to me, debilitated,
and asked me if I knew Dr. Murray - what a Belfast accent he had. I had seen him at

know many times but could not think of his name. When he mentioned that it was Mr Brown I knew immediately that he lived in Blythmore Rd! He is a wireless operator in the Royal Signals, was in the Dunkirk show and then sent to Italy. It is strange going to mass in the morning and then see two candles burning from the open chapel. God bless you my dearest one.

Saturday March 7th The usual three masses - oh what longing for a prison of war! Two swims with the boys; evening wargy; rice for all meals and nothing else! I am still "sneaky" about the knees, but take things easy. I am unemployed as yet like so many other medicals here. Frank McLaughlin joined the mess today; you remember I told you about him how I met him in India and his wife (see Cor of Glen Road).

Sunday March 8th Went to early mass and back again to a late one with McLaughlin. I received orders to move to morning and start work as M.O. to an Anti Tank Regiment. At Rosary and Benediction I met Winsey and the Brown and said farewell to them. I am going to another camp where also there is no Chapel and no mass. I shall be unhappy without mass each morning; I have been so happy during the past week. Now I shall miss it all so badly. I do need you and your prayers my own darling.

Monday March 9th I am now in my new billet - a wooden hut which I am sharing with Frank McLaughlin. He is a grand chap. I have had a hectic days work here, but I loved it. We are wired in here as all the camps are now. I feel more like a prisoner of war now! Thank heaven the food is much better here and very palatable. The officers are all astelling men and one a nice crowd. I love you still.

Tuesday March 10th A quieter day but interesting in its way. I was out testing water this afternoon and met some Australians. What little news they had of the outside world was very good and it seems that at least you at home will soon have peace. So look out for me coming home soon! God bless you darling.

Wednesday - March 11th Still fairly busy my darling, and still liking it. My roommate does make life pleasant. I had a hectic afternoon's planning yesterday and now I haven't got a single holy sock. I must do another big washing soon again! You should have seen me at the medical mess washing my sheets. I promise to do all the washing when we are married, darling!! Think of the money I will save you, how much will you pay me? God bless you my dearest one.

Thursday - March 12th More work, more sewing and planning. My darling I have salvaged a washer and sea new golf balls given to me by Capt. Adams on the ballfield grounds. Do just you look out young woman! I have not smiled it much today but there is plenty of time. I saw a friend in the distance but could not speak to him. However Mr Langford says that Mass has been promised to us on Sunday at 8.30 a.m. I love you my darling.

Friday - March 13th I forgot to tell you that I have grown a wonderful beard! It is over two weeks old now and the finest in all of Singapore island; it is long and wavy and very black. It is the envy of all. You would not recognise me behind my whiskers! I promise to have it nicely shaved off by the time I reach Southampton. I dream of that wonderful day so often and I know it will come soon. Went to visit the hospital today with Mr Langford - remind me to tell you of it!

Saturday - March 14th My darling I had a dream about you last night - it was a long dream and I wanted it to last forever. Around the scene was Beechwood and you were my Queen. We were so very, very happy together in our home. My dreams are always happy even though I am a P.O.W. (prisoner of War). We are still married in but are allowed in the main road. Of course there are no shops or cautions; I have got \$1.00 left in my pocket! I think things will improve. I love you my darling

Sunday - March 15th Went to mass at 8.30 a.m. with Frank W.L. My old friend Fr. Kennedy was the priest. I offered up my mass and Communion for our own special intention. After Communion I said our special prayers to the Sacred Heart. Then I asked Him for special favours

for you my own darling. You have come into my heart dear Lord and have brought me peace and hope and courage; You will visit my Helen's heart too in a few hours time, so please oh please bring hope and joy and peace and comfort to her; tell her that I am well and that I still love her. I know that he will hear my prayers. Services are at 8.15 this evening - only boxing - but that is wonderful and I shall go each evening. Also the Mass time each morning clothes with my sick parade - the latter cannot be changed and so I have to miss all these graces each day.

Monday - March 16th My darling, it has rained the whole day long, but I like the rain because it reminds me of home! My Rosaries each night are always for you my own dearest one. Please you more and more as the days go by and I pray harder that we may be united soon again. I have always loved you my darling and I am so very very sure that I always shall. There could never be anyone but you.

Tuesday - March 17th - ST. PATRICK'S DAY! I never thought that our great Irish feast day would pass without Shamrock and all that it means to us. My heart was at home with you - you who are so Irish and so true. There are things which you might not understand about me and the Army and which will be explained when I reach home again. Hope father will not worry about me as you must not worry.

Wednesday - March 18th - Now I wish I could tell you all these things that are in my heart now instead of just writing about them for you to read when the war is over. But somehow I know that God will tell you everything that you want to know. Surely He has told you that I am safe and that nothing will happen to me; surely He has brought you comfort and consolation and given you hope. I am happy here in my own way except for one thing and that is worrying about you and what suffering I might be causing you. Our love is so great that it can bring great joy or great pain when we are apart.

Thursday - March 19th Still raining but I still love you, my darling. I did a big washing today - shirts, shorts, socks and towels - and a sheet! I have left my

shots out on the line in the rain. I do not mind being behind bars, sure because "Stone walls do not a prison make" and I am thousands of miles away at home with you always. My crucifix, my Sacred Heart Statue, and my Holy-water have survived the campaign and are resting peacefully in a wooden ledge in my wooden hut. You cannot imagine how precious these are to me in times like the present. All the non-Catholic officers have admired the beautiful crucifix and the Statue, and I am so very proud of my treasures and proud of being a Catholic. It seems the C of E pastor is very anxious to lay hands on a cross as he calls it, and hasn't got me yet but I should not part with my throne. I have got all your snaps looking, but I have not straphayed you in the wall yet because I am sharing my room with another officer. God bless you my dearest one.

Friday March 20th I have been given another job today and I thank God for some more work to do. I am the new Anti-Malarial Officer of this Area. This means that my entire morning will be occupied. I have my own squad of men and we shall be busy dealing with breeding grounds in this division. We are the strangest prisoners of war in history. We have so carefully suited ourselves in, we carefully guard ourselves from escaping with our own patrols, we see little of the Japanese we are very well fed, we are living in ideal surroundings - the nicest in the island and the loveliest. The days are never too hot or sticky, there is always a breeze, and the nights are cool. However the sea bathing is still banned and we are more confined than before. I have made up my mind to make the best of things; I refuse to be depressed because I love you and because I am praying hard to Him.

Saturday March 21st Yesterday evening before Rosary time I tried out some shots with my Brannin. It was a big success and you will not see a chance with me when we play together at home! After Rosary I had my annual inoculation against Typhoid. So I had a sore arm today and felt awful but now I am better as the reaction has passed. I was thinking of you when I had my inoculation. I felt and have always felt it my duty to you to keep well. I am one of the few people, thank God, in

this huge camp that has not had dysentery. I am very particular about scrubbing my hands and nails often. I was thinking today that if you saw me now you would say that I am a real Franciscan friar with my brown black beard! God has given so much to me - I do not crave for cigarettes or drinks, I am happy without them; I have no craving for sweets to eat, I am contented with my present food; I have no hankering after a gay life - this quiet life suits me. I have lived for nearly a year in tropical rubber plantation - this camp is a welcome change, it is spacious and open; there are palm trees on the other side of the road; there is a huge parking 20 yards from my door - football, hockey, cricket and baseball pitches - it is unbelievably pretty for a prisoners of war camp. I have looked at you many times today and loved you more each time.

Sunday March 22nd - This is always the happiest day of my week because it is our day and because I have Mass and Communion. Today there were offered up for your intentions and again I asked Him to give you everything you need and again I asked Him to tell you today when He visited you that I am well and safe and that I still love you. I had a short wonderful dream about you, my own darling, last night. I was meeting you for the first time after all these years and you were so real. I could see you smiling. My father and mother were both present in the room. There doesn't bring me so near to you my darling. God Bless you.

Monday - March 23rd - My darling, I have had another wonderful dream about you and your dear ones. I met your daddy and all the family in Old Park Avenue waiting at a bus stop (which does not exist). I went up to daddy and said "Don't you know me? my name is Murray". I saw that he did not recognise me so I said that my name was Frank and that I was engaged to marry his daughter Helen! He made quite a fuss of me and invited me over to Spring Villa to meet you there. We walked for a while and your Josephine was ahead of me with the others - she turned back

to me and said "You know, Frank, I have been praying for you every day that you would come safely home. I wish I could dream of you and all at home every night. You are in my thoughts all day long every day. You still have my Rosary and many other prayers all to yourself. I was outside the wire today doing Anti-Aircraft work, but my own father I met. Father Kennedy and his boys in a coconut grove near the phone - they were gathering wood furniture for our new chapel as this is officially our last day outside the wire without a very special pass. I promised to lend him my Irish Dorses. I still cannot get to Sears except on Sundays and yet the chapel is only a few hundred yards away. I could go with recreation sometimes. God bless you often always."

Tuesday - March 24th I have been down by the sea today with my squad - we had a special pass. I am one of the privileged few who are allowed out and so I am not really a P.O.W. I did a terrific amount of sewing in the afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m. and then a little after times. I have been been stitching; hemming, baste, blanket stitching etc! My latest venture in patching my shirt has been a huge success and I believe even you could not do patching so neatly! I have heaps more sewing and darning to do ~~to do~~ tomorrow afternoon; my day passes quickly - mine quickly than anyone else in this camp. I find sewing very soothing and I can think of you all the time.

Wednesday - March 25th - Feast of the Annunciation My darling, what can I do about Mass? I cannot go daily and though it is only a few yards away I cannot go. Last night I met my friend Capt. Ross who lived at Gips and was District Officer there when I was up in tent. I told you all about Gips in one of my letters and how lovely it was - a miniature of London. Capt. Ross told me of his adventures down through Malaya during the campaign and the narrow escapes he had - he is a grand chap. I had another morning down near the beach during the parade and met Fr. Kennedy and his boys foraging among the Kampungs. I spent my whole afternoon and evening sewing - I am expert needlewoman now! Oh, you look prettier than ever and braver than ever - no wonder I love you so.

Thursday - March 26th - Today has been the same as usual except that it is one day nearer to seeing you again. At the moment my typical day is like this - Reveille at 3 a.m. at dawn (really 6.30 a.m. Singapore time), I get up, have my morning tea, wash, and go off to my sock parade at 8.30 a.m., this finishes at 9.30 a.m., breakfast of rice, a little tinned meat, tea, sometimes a rice cone. Then off to Div. H.Q. at 10.30 a.m. to meet the Anti-Malayan party; we march down to the scene of our labours, a soldier leading us with a small Japanese flag; work ends at 1 P.M., and we march back. Lunch at 1.45 P.M. ^{Rice & Tea} Then I go off to my room, sew and darn till 4 P.M., tea, then mending till 6.30 P.M.! Dinner at 6.45 P.M. more rice and a little tinned beef! I write to you at 7.30 P.M.; then I go off at 8.15 P.M. to Rosary with McLaughlin. It is dark again as we walk back. We have no lights and so we sit in darkness or moonlight on our verandah, and talk of home of India, and always of food. I have a sort of bath out of an old rusty tin and so to bed at 10.30 or 11 P.M. (10 hours sleep!). All my day belongs to God - and to you my darling. If I could but see you now and tell you how much I love you, but that is it cannot be, our day will surely come soon.

Friday - March 27th - The Feast of Our Lady of Dolours - had a quiet morning and did not go out with my squad, but went out foraging in the afternoon with the Regiment down by the sea. We had quite a feast of Coconut. I have thought about you a lot today, trying to imagine you as you are today, imagining what you will look like when we meet again at Southampton. I only hope that I shall not disgrace you by weeping for you.

Saturday - March 28th - Another day nearer to you, my darling, and I love you today with all my heart and soul. I am sitting here on the verandah of my wooden abode looking out towards my Ireland and you - and what a perfect sunset it is, all red and golden. This morning I helped Fr. Kennedy to carry back some wood for the Chapel. McLaughlin and I were down in the Coconut Grove with the Anti-Malayan squad - we had a grand time by the sea. God bless you my own dearest one.

(6 weeks since capitulation)

Sunday March 29th Palm Sunday - My happiest day of the week is today. Mass and Communion as usual and oh what a long talk I had with Him and the things I asked Him to give to you. I made a small album with the few Kodak snaps I had here. I am wondering what our Anjala album looks like - you promised to have it ready for Christmas. That reminds me how lucky I was to get your Christmas letter even though I have burned it since. I have been thinking about your photograph and what happened to it - your little snap still lies next to my heart. I love you more today my darling. God bless you. (Palm trees everywhere but none at Brass!)
OLY WEEK

Monday - March 30th Another day means to you. I did heaps of sewing in the afternoon. Also washed a shirt! As I sat in this little room sewing I wondered if you too were sewing hard at your supper cloth and I thought of all the things you have done for our bottom drawers. My thoughts turned to Senegal and our stances together there and I found myself humming an Irish hornpipe - my favourite. Then came a picture of you, the shy schoolgirl who was so terrified at my approach to her! Oh how I loved and worshipped you then and yet my darling that love was never so deep, so true and so great as it is today - and it grows daily.

Tuesday - March 31st Today was much the same as yesterday except that I am queer even more than ever. The hours and hours that I spend sewing and thinking of you each day. You will soon be on your way back home for Easter vacation and I know you will be happier than among your dear ones and mine too. You know that I would die a thousand times rather than cause you any unhappiness, and yet I feel that I am causing you worry and suffering - and oh how it grieves my heart. I shall be glad when you definitely hear that I am safe and sound. God bless you my darling. I am off to my room.

Wednesday - APRIL 1st I had a glorious morning by the sea. The lads were fishing in a pond nearby and caught many carp. I met Dr. Kennedy again on the way for his chapel the latter is making good progress and should be partly ready for Easter Sunday. Read this Saint Thomas today. Major Pelling gave me my first sweet today! Love you my darling.

Thursday (Holy) - April 2nd - Had a grand morning stam by the sea with my men. I had Fr. Kennedy down with me collecting food for the Chapel. I spent my morning writing out my official diary for the papers also (1st-21st February) - my dates must be all mixed up but I managed somehow. I read three more "Saint" stories this afternoon. I have lots of sewing to do yet but that has to wait. I still love you and adore you with all my heart and soul.

Good Friday - April 3rd - Today has been a holiday though not official. It is almost dark and we shall soon be off to Fr. Kennedy's special sermon to night. I read a small book on Lawrence of Arabia and more Saint stories. I loved you and prayed for you more than ever. God bless you.

Holy Saturday - April 4th - We had a lovely Passion sermon last night and it brought me great consolation and made me realize what He suffered for me. What we two are suffering now, my darling, seems so small. Tomorrow will be Easter Sunday and oh how unlike Easter it is to me. Thank God I shall have Mass and Communion. Oh to be at home with you again at these times - or any time. I do love you so very very much. and I could never love anyone but you.

Easter Sunday - April 5th (7 weeks) - Easter has come and nicely gone - my thoughts were with you the whole day through. I saw you asleep at Spring Villa while I was at Mass and Communion for you. I prayed so hard to God this day for you that he wanted bring you peace and joy. I saw you late in the day and you seemed happy because you too were praying. You may be sure there were no Easter Eggs here - rice for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Have been selected to play cricket for the Regiment tomorrow! I imagine thinking I could never manage a game of cricket during my year in Brataya - and now I am to play as a Prisoner of War. I am happy in a way but all my happiness is due to you.

Easter Monday - April 8th We had a grand cricket match today though we were beaten. Never seemed to be so pleased with myself for you sake. I found that I was as strong as ever and could run as fast as ever, in spite of my rice diet. Young lady if you ever dare to show me a plate of rice again when we are married I shall scream! I find so many acts to do - visit a Prisoner of War during the day and yet to me life goes on unimpeded. I know it must all end sometime; I am resigned to wait and give myself no false hopes as to when it will all end. I had a glorious sail morning near the sea working, I met Mr Kennedy carrying a lovely basket that he had found blown by the shore.

Easter Tuesday - April 9th I had a glorious morning by the sea and oh how sorry I shall be when my mornings outside the wire will cease. I must miss my Rosary for a simple evening somewhere it brings me nearer to you in every way. I long for the day when we shall kneel down together in our own home and say our own Rosary. Those days seem now some quietly enough for us. You bless you.

Wednesday - April 8th It rained the whole afternoon and as I gazed out upon that torment my thoughts went back home to you and all our dear ones. I wanted to be at home more than ever before. How you move today than ever before and I know that I shall always love you. I think my last day by the sea has come and gone. However I shall carry on somewhere. A party of our men and officers went into Singapore to work today and brought back some bread - real bread!! - and sweets. We had a royal feast this evening. And now I must lie off to my prayers - have been going alone these nights.

Thursday - April 9th My sun shining. How you ever move to day. I had a hard morning's work on the sun - and not by the sea. Went to hospital in the afternoon with patients. I had a grand day - especially the short ride in the Ambulance car. I saw Mr Kelly in his tent looking very miserable and depressed. You may thank the good God that your Frank is not lying at the medical mess in the hospital grounds! God bless you and keep you.

Friday - APRIL 10th My life outside the wire has been miraculously extended and so I was free today again for the morning! I put all my sheets, blankets, and bed out to air in the afternoon! My darling, I love you more and more every day and I shall always love you. It is evening in Changi but it is only 11.30 am. in Belfast where you are lucky enough to be. God bless you. I cannot write much due to paper scarcity and my small stock of ink.

Saturday - APRIL 11th My darling, you would surely blush if you knew how many times I have looked at you this day! Do you really and truly know how much I really love you? I could not love you any more than I do - I have given you all my love, all my heart, all of my worthless self. Oh what can you see in me to love. Why are you so loyal and unselfish towards me - I shall never understand it. My darling, it breaks my heart when I realize that even now after 2 months of being a prisoner in Malaya, you know nothing of my safety or whereabouts. I do not want you to worry about me ever; I know you will put your trust in God. Frank in Laughlin my room mate has been transferred to another area of the camp and I am having a new room pal - Mr. Medical. Had another grand morning outside the wire.

Sunday - APRIL 12th My darling, it has been our day and it has been a lovely one as usual - I have been so very happy after my usual Mass and Communion in the new thatched wooden church. I had a long chat with Capt. Ross after Mass - he was D.O. at Gipta. Frank in L. went away this evening. I actually had a few penny bars of chocolate when the officers came back from Singapore. God bless you.

Monday - APRIL 13th I had a wonderful dream about you last night my darling. I found myself walking up the path to Spring Villa, I went into your sitting room and there you were with Felix. In a moment you came running into my arms crying "Frank". How I did love you then as I loved you when I woke up. I could not understand why Felix should be away from his practice. I shall love you forever and ever.

March 10

Tuesday - April 14th Had a long chat with Fr. Kennedy last night after Rosary. I lent him my Irish Verses and he was so happy about this. I promised to lend him my lovely crucifix when his altar was completed. I was working today from 8 am till 6.30 p.m. Walked to hospital and back with some men, met Mr. Kelly there and other Mr. D. & they wishing I were gone.

Wednesday - April 15th Had a night fall last night - reminded me of my practice days at B'ham. Worked hard all day till 7.30 p.m. Got home only met this afternoon returning from hospital. I love you more and more every day my own darling.

Thursday - April 16th I do think my need for you to tell you how much I love you in these days of captivity. You will know and feel in your own heart that I love you more than anything that I have or am. I have had another hectic day and oh how leg weary I am. I do not mind working hard if only we had something else to eat besides rice! God bless you my darling.

Friday - April 17th Had some rest this afternoon thank God and I feel better for it. Am now reading "A Century of Love Stories" - they are grand but what can they teach me of love. I love you more than any man has ever loved before. I have discovered that I am too soft. I lent my lovely clock to the adjutant because I have a watch and he has no time piece. Weeks ago I gave away another precious watch, pair of boots and pair of shoes - somehow I have to share with others. God bless you my dear sweet one.

Saturday - April 18th I went to Mass last night after Rosary. There is a most lovely altar erected now and I had a long chat with the proud young man who planned it and built it out of nothing. He is a young Gunner and has a young wife at home - he says he wants to tell her all about his altar. I had another quiet day though I worked till 8 p.m. I had a dream last night that I landed in Ceylon and was informed that you came to see me and made my happiness complete. I can hear "The Mountains of Moome" in a gramophone somewhere in the camp and that brings me nearer home and to you. I think of the happiness that I knew in

9 weeks

Your company in the shadow of Inoume. Oh, my darling, why did I go so often to Carlinwellan?
Sunday - April 19th - Another happy day with you so near to me and see dear Lord

in my breast. Fr Kennedy had to cancel daily Mass because of lack of bread and money - so now I do not feel that awful loss so much. Today I prayed especially hard for all your dear ones. How utterly unworthy I am of their love - of your great love too. I am ashamed that I am causing you so much worry and may be heart ache; your dear ones will be sharing your anxiety and that makes me even more ashamed. God bless you my darling

Monday - April 20th - After Rosary last night Fr Kennedy and I had a walk around the playing fields and then sat under the starry sky for about an hour talking of home and heaps of grand things. We studied the stars and I showed him the Southern Cross, Orion, Jupiter etc. I went with him today down to the shore in a foraging expedition for his Church. He told me that he was the only Jesuit in Malaya. I am very busy but thank God my work is showing results - no dysentery cases in my camp, no flies, few mosquitoes, and the sick rate falling. I love you with all my heart

Tuesday - April 21st - I expect you are back to porridge at Dinagat again. My darling, I am with you all day long in your prayers, in your class-room, and in your games. If I am causing you any suffering or pain, oh please forgive me - I would rather die than cause you any hurt. You are me and I am you in every way. Today has been a busy one but your Capt. Young the red M.O. will be back again and I shall have relief. By the way he spent 2 months at Ardross this time last year with some troops there. May God bless you my darling.

Wednesday - April 22nd - How quickly the days are speeding past and that means I am coming nearer to you. Another quiet day - I mean uneventful. I dreamed and thought of you as usual and I asked Him to send me back to you soon. I know that He will not let us down if it be His holy Will. May He bless you now and always.

Thursday APRIL 23rd - After heavy last night, Fr. Kennedy invited me to his house to hear a gramophone recital. I enjoyed every moment of it even though I was badly bitten by mosquitoes. And now I have something to tell you. There was a cricket match today - test match - and I was honored to be included. The whole 11th Division was represented - they wanted to select a team to play the Australians next Sunday. Well, my darling, I was in wonderful form and was top scorer with 30 runs. I got great applause and praise from the other officers - but I wanted you to be there to see me play. I just smashed everything that came my way. I hope I am selected in the team because the "Crosses" have 3 Test match players playing. Dufferin, Barnett and Shipperfield. God bless you my darling in

Friday APRIL 24th - I have a new room companion - Capt Burgess a student, he is small and thin, wears glasses, has a "Stadson" face and prominent teeth. He seems a good sort of chap. It has rained the whole day long and now it is pouring slack at 3.10 P.M. I actually felt cold to day. You would not imagine anyone feeling cold in the tropics! Have you been more than ever to day. Heard nothing of the big cricket match as yet.

Saturday APRIL 25th - Have you thought how truly wonderful our love is. God always meant us to love each other as we now do; we can love him better now that we love each other. Our preparation for marriage is a hard one indeed - we are not allowed to see each other, but that has only made our love more pure and stronger. I have had one year in the rubble of holidays but it has been a happy one thanks to you because you were ever by my side - it would never be unhappy with you leaving me. Today has been glorious and I have been happy in my own way. I had the awful experience of seeing a priest's face slapped to day and I could not do anything about it and neither would he. God bless you my darling.

Sunday APRIL 26th ^{10 WEEKS} - Our stay is ended once more and again I am nearer to you through Him. This was the day of the big cricket match and I was not chosen to play in spite of an outcry about it by my fellows. I did not really mind a bit. So I spent the afternoon watching it all.

I have had my most happy day with you. My thoughts turned to Dulles and I thought of happy days there in the past. I do love that fair city as well as you, my darling! Some day we shall visit it often together and wander around it at our leisure. I loved these quiet streets around the Incurium House, the quaint houses of Brunson Square. It has a romantic appeal for me though I have never had any romance there. I adore you. God bless you, my darling.

Monday - APRIL 27th I had an anti-malarial walk down by the sea this morning with two other officers. Then came a hockey match at 5.30 pm this evening when we only fielded 10 men and were beaten 5-0! So naturally I am tired because one cannot play games in ice and live in the climate. Even, my dear one, I had a day dream about you this afternoon. You kissed me and made me happy as you always have. If you could only know the consolation that your love brings to me in my exile and I pray to God that my love for you is bringing some solace to your heart. May he always bless you.

Tuesday - APRIL 28th My own darling, I could not love you any more than I do tonight. I am all yours, even more than ever before. It has been a quiet day and I have been happy. I washed a shirt yesterday evening and today it is perfect - no ironing but I have a trick of pinning shirts out when they are damp! I was out with my Lads this morning and our anti-malarial work is completed with great success. God bless you.

Wednesday - APRIL 29th Today was a holiday - the Emperor of Japan's birthday. I was a bit late with no work (or little) to do. After breakfast I made a sanitary round of the camp. It rained in the afternoon and so I went asleep! I read my medical book, said some prayers. Now a glorious sunset is sending me off to Koyang. Be it here recorded that my room mate clattered out through this room four times last night!

Thursday - APRIL 30th Another month nearer to you my darling. I am writing this by a queer looking light - a bottle, some oil, and a wick made of lint! Another quiet day with no excitement. My little clock has ceased to function.

but a very nice Bombardier has promised to send it for me. It is a precious part of our bottom stores, and I mean to show it off to you when I reach home again. God bless you. I do love you so very very much.

Friday May 1st :- I have been sitting here in the parlour of the evening for ages thinking of you and wondering if you were worried about me. My own darling, you know that I would rather die than have you stay worry or suffering. This is May Day and this is May's month. I shall pray so very hard to Her all during this month and ask Her to help bring us together soon again. Today has been perfect and I have never felt so well in my life. Thank God. He has spared me all the suffering and distress that have been the lot of many here. May He bless you.

Saturday May 2nd :- I can still not find time to thank you and I pray hard to Him to day when I was out with my men down by the sea. It was another perfect day, blue sky, hot sun, waving palms, and the sea in the background. I have loved you so very much to day and I know that I shall always love you. God bless you, my own darling. I am preparing for Him already to enjoy ^{see} you.

Sunday May 3rd :- You had your usual Mass and Communion this morning and a Rosary last night. Do you not hear me when I pray so hard for you? I think He is beginning to answer our prayers already. I cannot tell you more than this. I can tell you that I have never loved you so much as I do today. I know and feel that your love is always with me. I could not live without it.

Monday May 4th :- My darling, another day nearer to you. I have not been outside the wires today. Had quite a busy morning. Went to see Fr. Kennedy and Capt. Seed R.A.M.C. - the latter is a fine fellow who shares the padre's room. They treated me royally - beer, potato bread, and fresh vegetables! We examined some blood slides for Malaria. Capt. Seed has promised to lend me some of his numerous medical books. I love you my own darling.

Tuesday May 5th :- Why it's like I think of nobody but you all the day. You bring me such happiness and consolation. What does anything matter - the awful separation, the uncertainty, the worry, the headache - they will all end soon; what really matters is our love and our God.

Wednesday - May 6th - My own darling, I am a very tired man this evening. We, the other officer and I went down to the shore foraging. We dragged our trailer up hill and down dale - you would have been amazed to see your Frank out in front pulling the rope like a coolie! It was grand fun. We gathered fruit and furniture - basket chair and table. It was a glorious sight to stand on that cliff top and look down upon our little cove; away beyond was the Pacific. God bless you my darling.

Thursday - May 7th - Do you know, young lady that I love you above all else in the world. I was out with my men and Fr. Kennedy today and he got more wood for his church. Poor man is beginning to feel the strain of his labours - he works too hard. You should see the marble slabs he has laid down in the Sanctuary and the beautiful coloured glass windows for the back of the altar. I am going out with him to morrow again. Do you know that my wonderful friend finds time to give instructions to converts.

Friday - May 8th (Charles' Birthday R.I.P.) My darling, I love you even more today - with all the love of my heart - and more than that. Fr. Kennedy paid me a visit today and admired my soupes very much. We have planned another trip to morrow to the sea shore. It is growing late and dark - and my love is growing too, but I must be off and pray for you. God bless you.

Saturday - May 9th - I had a grand morning with Fr. Kennedy foraging by the sea. I sat in the garden of a lovely bungalow overlooking the sea and drank in the beauty of the sea and the shore below. I discovered a nice little table - as did Fr. Kennedy. He is to use the latter as a table for his sermons in the new church. My stock returned today and now repose on my table. I heard today that my friend Capt. George ("George") is a patient in hospital. I shall pay him a visit to morrow (D.V.). I have been invited out to dinner to morrow night with the D.C. of our neighbouring Mountain Regiment - lots of jealousy about it. I love you my darling with my all. God bless you.

Tuesday - May 12th - My first day in hospital is over but I must scribble this line to tell you how much I love you. My darling, I had a lovely dream about you last night.

Wednesday - May 13th - Have had a rough time today. on Kawatan diet. I have loved you more today.

Thursday - May 14th - Another day and I feel better on diet of salt and Kawatan. I have nothing to do but "wonder of you the whole day through". God bless you.

Friday - May 15th - A bit better today than God. No work. Have started on light diet. My darling please you and your medal your look of hair and your smile are close to my heart always. God bless you.

Saturday - May 16th - So very much better to day thank God my own darling, being all as a POW. is really quite nice under the circumstances. I love you.

Sunday - May 17th - Another good day thank God. Capt. Seed R.R.M.C. came today and gave me 2 bars of chocolate! What luxury! I love you my darling.

Monday - May 18th - Day by day I improve thank God. I love you more today.

Tuesday - May 19th - Capt. J.W. George ("George") came to see me this morning and spent 2 hours with me. He is a grand chap. Mr. Langhorne came in the

leaving for a chat. Am being discharged to morrow.

Wednesday May 20th - Back to the fold again

Thank God! Discharged in the afternoon & had to
walk two awful miles in the heat, but I managed.
And soon I shall be in bed again - my own
beloved camp bed. I am back to my Compass, my
stater, my photographs of Mother & Jessie & my
letter. God bless you my own darling.

12 weeks

Sunday - May 10th - Some whole bundles I have been here! And I'll love you with all my heart and soul. I am all yours and I shall always be yours. I am just returned from dinner - a few casual things with a very nice crowd of ladies. I was at Mass and Communion this morning for our intentions. I have not felt so well today and I dread the morrow.

Monday - May 11th - I have had a rotten night and think I am due for repenting at last. I have been in bed all day long and this evening I am very weak. I did my sickly parade alright but can't manage any more. I may have to go into hospital to morrow as a patient. My darling I know that no matter what happens to me I shall love you forever.

Tuesday - May 12th Thursday - May 21st Hospital - I came out of hospital yesterday and now I am back at work. Still feel very weak and have been given sundays off. I do nothing more to pass the time away. Oh my own precious darling, I do love you so very very much this day. How I long with an awful longing to see you again. If I only had your letters how how happy they would make me, but you do realize that it was much better to know than I have no means of locking things away as in the old days. May God bless you.

Friday - May 22nd - I am getting stronger daily thank God. There was a big inspection today by the D.D.M.S. and everything went off well. I have not ventured across to Chapel yet for the evening rosary, but I shall be fit for Mass on Sunday (D.V.) I love you.

Saturday - May 23rd - It seems I am destined to see even more of the world. My aunt has been warned to prepare to go overseas from Singapore in the near future and that means that I shall probably go with them. I don't know whether to be pleased or not because I am happy in this place and going out into the unknown is not pleasant in these times.

Sunday - May 24th - Was at Mass and Communion for you this morning and I had a special favour to ask of the Holy Ghost for us both. My darling, I do love you so very much this day of days. It is our day and I love it. God bless you.

Whit Sunday

Monday - May 25th : Had a busy day yesterday examining all the books and it tired me out so today I had a rest. Went to library to night and met Fr. Kennedy and Capt. See. The little wooden church is beautiful now that it is nearly finished. The altar looks grand with ^{the} stained glass window behind it. Dreamed of Dr. Macsherry last night. God bless you.

Tuesday - May 26th - I had to make my big choice today - whether to remain on Singapore island or proceed overseas. I decided to remain but I prayed for guidance from the Holy Ghost. Another M.D. was much keener to go than I so I slept down. So you know that I still love you? I am see you every day of my life. You are so busy now preparing your pupils for the exams. I hope and pray that they will be as successful if not more so than last year. God bless you.

Wednesday - May 27th - I forgot to tell you that as I sat in the gloaming of Monday evening I heard a min voice singing from the Australian Isles across the sea "Little Town in the Outer County Down". Oh what memories it brought back to me. Great preparation being made in camp for going overseas. Everyone is disappointed that I am not going with them. How you

Thursday - May 28th - The unit is due to leave on Saturday. I am to stay on in the same place and become Medical Officer to the I.A.O.C. which is moving in here. I already know several of the officers quite well - four of them were in Kuantan with me. Remember I had a Major living next door to me there - he is one of the crowd. I am moving into a new room which is well furnished - table - chest of drawers.

Friday - May 29th - The big move has been cancelled until 15th June and now I am wondering if it will ever take place. I had a standing round this morning and blitzed everybody. The afternoon I spent making reports and returns. I peeped into our little church today and oh it was lovely - blue altar with lovely designs on the front etc. How you may like my new room darling and I should never love anyone but you. I have loved you for so many years now since I was a shy schoolboy in Dougal. Oh the long weary hours I used wait near Spring Villa hoping, hoping to see you and talk with you. God bless you, my darling.

Saturday - May 30th - Has been a quiet day with no excitement. I have developed the most awful backache. I must be growing very old! It is much worse by night unfortunately. The weather has been much better recently. My darling, I am telling you my tale of woe as usual; I wonder how you are bothered with me at all. I do love you with all my heart and soul. I shall always love you, Cileen. May God and His Holy Mother bless you.

Sunday - May 31st [E 15 weeks] - This was Trinity Sunday - went to Mass and Communion for you my darling. I had my usual request to make of Him for you. A sudden hurricane blew up in the afternoon and nearly washed me out of my room. I am still sharing this with the Priest (Benzess). God bless you my own darling.

Monday - June 1st - What a glorious June day this has been, a warm sun, a cool breeze and a blue sky. I should have gone out with my Anti-Aerial Squad but I had a bad night with Rheumatism. This is a strange diary and you will never read it, Cileen. We are still eating plenty of rice, we get no milk at all now, so you may imagine what the rice tastes like! We have a few ounces of meat twice weekly also some vegetables during the week. I never drink the awful sugarless, milkless tea - I prefer water. I have lost a lot of weight and heaven alone knows when I shall get it back again! God bless you.

Tuesday - June 2nd - Still having awful nights with my back - I am still looking for sympathy you see! My darling, I do love you so very much and I know that I shall always be yours, Cileen. A glorious sunset to night - we watched it before going.

Wednesday - June 3rd - Back still bad! Father Kennedy came to see me this evening and collected my precious Crucifix for his chapel. To morrow is Corpus Christi and the official opening of the new chapel. My Crucifix now stands in top of the tabernacle and it completes the very lovely altar. Alas I cannot go to Mass to morrow.

Thursday - June 4th - My darling, our latest movie is into Singapore town area - I don't know when it will take place, but it seems certain that I shall leave lovely Changi and the

Dea. I have again tried to moving around the globe by this time, but I still don't like changes. The war changed everything for me but thank God it helped to bring us together - but it was really prayer and my own dear brother's death that united us in our love forever.

Friday - June 5th - Another day means to you my darling. I intend visiting a specialist tomorrow to have my backache investigated. Tell my dearest one you know that I shall love you always no matter what happens. I knew so well what was going to happen on Sunday and that's why I warned you before the battle here. God bless you.

Saturday - June 6th - My own darling, I can't help loving you as much as I do. You are as real and true to me now as if you were with me in this little room. I went to see the specialist at the hospital and he discovered Rheumatic nodules on my spine which were pressing on nerves producing that awful pain. I have to ^{go} back again tomorrow to have a novocain injection into my spine. God bless you, Kileen eternal.

Sunday - June 7th - Went to Mass and Communion this morning. After breakfast I set out for the hospital, had my injection and now I am almost well again. Oh what relief! What a night I had last night but please God those weary hours are ended. I did not forget to offer up my pains. Our pains and sorrows are nothing to what He suffered for us. My darling, I love you and I shall always be the same. God bless you.

Monday - June 8th - My darling I have had a grand night's sleep. I went to Mass and Communion at 8:40 am. Father Kennedy now says daily Mass in the little Chapel. I have changed my sick parade time to 8 am and as there are not too many sick I have just time to see them all and rush across to Mass. It is hard on the sick as Revolve is at 8 am too. Now I thank God that I can now have daily Mass and Communion and Rosary in our own Chapel. The Blessed Sacrament is now reserved in the Chapel and that makes such a difference. I prayed so hard for you at our Mass and Communion this morning. My darling, I love you and I am happy this night.

Tuesday - June 9th - Mass and Communion today again - oh how heavenly it is nowadays for me. I never think of food or hunger - I am too happy. My back still pains but nothing compared to what it has been. My darling, we have never been so near and dear to each other than today - we have so much in common each day of our lives. We say Good morning and Good night to each other, we have the same Mass, the same Lord in our hearts, the same petition daily to the Sacred Heart, we have the same thoughts about things and we have our love which will never change but will grow each day that we are apart and bind us together.

Wednesday - June 10th - My usual happy day with you and with God. You will like it for granted that my day includes Mass, Communion, a visit to the Blessed Sacrament and night Rosary at the Chapel and all the other things I mentioned yesterday. I love you.

Thursday - June 11th - Oh, my Ellen, almost if I could only give you some idea of how much I love you. You know that I am all yours and that I live only for you and your love. How I long to see you again and tell you all of this. May God bless you.

Friday - June 12th (Feast of The Sacred Heart) - How fervently I prayed to His Sacred Heart today and asked Him for so many favours for us both. My darling, I made a conquest today without any permission or talk - I brought Capt. Cooper to Rosary to night and introduced him to Fr. Kennedy. He has not been to Mass for ages and now he has arranged for Confession tomorrow. I love you.

Saturday - June 13th - The new Chapel has been named and above the door is a lovely signboard "Catholic Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, visited by the Prisoners of War, 11 Division, Singapore". I am still very proud and always will be of our faith, Ellen.

Sunday - June 14th - My darling, I had a bad night with my back - I actually shouted out twice with pain! I must see the Medical Specialist tomorrow again and see if another injection is indicated. I went for a long walk to night - 5 times around the Padang (4 miles) - maybe that will help. I love you. May God bless you, darling.

Monday - June 15th - Saw Medical Specialist today and he advised x-ray of my spine - in 10 days time. I was rather disappointed, but I have to be patient. Pain can teach me a lot - it is really a good thing for us or God would not send it to us. My darling, I do love you so much today.

Tuesday - June 16th - The Japanese paid us a few days ago - \$2 eventually reached me - \$5.50 went to a post and the officers mess. Imagine darling \$2 per month! A canteen is supposed to open today, but what it will contain I do not know. The post is scarce now and it is over a week since we had meat. Will we have plenty of rice - without salt or sugar or milk! Why do I tell you of such piddled things such as food! God bless you.

Wednesday - June 17th - I made a feast of myself this afternoon when I consumed a tin of condensed milk purchased from the postmen! Last night we had a party in my room - sausage (tinned) sandwiches, real bread and real Mergarine! I did share my tin of milk with others and actually had milk in our tea! My darling, I love you so very much.

Thursday - June 18th - Most of the unit is moving out on Saturday. Going up country. Pain returning behind and becoming v.o. to the new unit - Ordinance people. I know several of the officers. We had another post last night in my room - bully's and tinned, Cocoa milk, condensed milk in it, and pineapple and milk! What luxury! God bless you.

Friday - June 19th - My darling, I sent you a post card today! The Japanese allowed us to send one card each and so mine was for you. I wonder if you will ever receive it and when. You know that I shall always love you, Lillian. Yes we are really being treated well here as prisoners of war. These must be wondrous days for you with the encans in field sewing. May God give you all the graces you need.

Saturday - June 20th - A quiet day. My back is very painful now. God bless you and keep you my own darling. I shall always love you, Lillian, no matter what happens to me. I am yours forever and ever.

18 weeks

Sunday - June 21st - My darling, the 30 Anti Tank Unit has moved out and I am awaiting the new crowd to move in (Ordnance Corps). I have a room all to myself nowadays! My next door neighbours will be Major Hill (+ Capt Pearson) - the former was next door to me for many months at Quantico! I knew the latter quite well too. I prayed so hard for you to day

Monday - June 22nd - My darling, Father Kennedy has just left me - been talking to me for past half-hour. He is a good man. My back has been awful today and I began to suspect there is something radically wrong with my spine. I love you, Helen. God bless you

Tuesday - June 23rd - My darling, I love you so very much. Quiet day; back bad.

Wednesday - June 24th - Another quiet day. Examined by another doctor who diagnosed Arthritis. God bless you.

Thursday - June 25th - Going into hospital today - am an awful wreck! Had a very wonderful session of you and Frances last night. She was my advocate with you and how she worked to bring us together. God bless you both for I love you both so much.



- June 25th - July 21st in hospital with Arthritis Spine
- Wednesday July 22nd - My own darling, I am so much better now - no pains, no
aches. I am happier than I have been before. Had an awful time in hospital but
thank God that is all over now. God bless you Lileen. Sorry I could not write before
- Thursday July 23rd - I slept like a top last night thank God. Went to Rosary last
night and Mass and Communion this morning. I have had a glorious day in the
sun in an easy chair. I intend having 2 weeks rest before resuming work. 3000
Senior Officers and men are being sent to Japan at the week end, so I am missing
that too. All my love to you darling, God bless you.
- Friday July 24th - Thank God I am back again to Mass and Rosary daily. I
have moved my quarters and am only a few yards away from the Chapel.
Oh my own darling I do want to see you again - would you please come to
visit me?? I am still taking things easy and reading lots. God bless you
- Saturday July 25th - Another quiet day, reading, sunbathing and prancing. We
had eggs for breakfast this morning! I hope you are having a grand holiday
at Killough and that you are very happy. Maybe you had time to visit Dublin
see Ancestral, the two Masses etc. I love you with all my heart and soul.
- Sunday - July 26th (Feast of St. Anna) It has been our day today and I love
you as I have never loved you before. I am having grand walks nowadays
around the Padang. I am contented to live even as a POW but please
my darling hurry up and send me home to you. God bless you
- Monday July 27th - I am still having my holiday and still loving it. Have you
received my post card yet? Do you love me still, Lileen? You ought not to love
me even a little bit. I cannot understand why you love me. I am reading
Reader Digest (Jan. 1960!). God bless you my own darling.

Tuesday 28th July - Another grand day and I am feeling so very fit. We had a General and a Brigadier to dinner to night - I got on famously with them as they had both been to India. We exchanged experiences a bit. My darling, do you know that I love you very, very much today. God bless and keep you.

Wednesday - July 29th - My own darling, I was reading a magazine today and came across the words "University Library". Oh what memories of Queens those words brought back to me - they were all memories of the peaceful atmosphere of our library and they were all memories of you. Is it an awful confession to admit that my only reason for ever visiting that library was to catch a glimpse of you - you awful girl. For those days I found you a very elusive person! How I wanted to see you this day and tell you all about it. I have had a quiet and happy day. God bless you.

Thursday - July 30th - Kileen, my darling, I am fit again! I am as brown as a berry and am putting on weight. I do thank God for it all. I was homesick today and wanted so much to see you. However it won't be long now. God bless you.

Friday - July 31st - Another day nearer to you, my darling. Some day this will all end and we shall be together again and our happiness will know no bounds. I am making the best of things here in this war camp - you are such a help to me. The very thought that when this is all over I shall meet you face to face - well anything is bearable and life is sweet.

Saturday - August 1st - My own darling, it is late evening and the sun is setting away out in that perfect horizon. I am pleasantly tired as I had a long walk to H.Q. Command area. I visited the Bureau of Missing Persons and got no tidings of Humphrey Thomson. I do love you so much to day my Kileen. You know that I shall always love you and nobody but you. Nothing can ever change me. May you never change either. God bless you and keep you.

Sunday - August 2nd - My darling, Another day with you. My last day of freedom became tomorrow I start work again. That means no more daily brass - that is the awful part of it. Here in my life home I lived so near to a chapel - just a few yards - and yet I cannot have daily brass. May God bless you my own darling.

Monday - August 3rd - Back to work again and I love it! But not so much as I love you my own darling. It has been a quiet day and I am not a bit the worse for wear. I wanted to see you to tell you all that I am thinking of. The party has not gone to Japan as yet and that has caused speculation. God bless you, Kileen woman.

Tuesday - August 4th - Work is still pleasant. Time passes so very quickly nowadays and soon I shall be home again to you. Oh my own darling, if you could know how much I love you. God bless and keep you now and always.

Wednesday - August 5th - I heard unofficially that my post card had reached you safely. Thank God you know that I am safe and still love you. Did you receive the nice note I sent you for Mrs O'Callaghan who was going home to Ireland? I wanted you to have that. I love you even more today my darling. May God bless you.

Thursday - August 6th - A busy day. Thank God I am fit for it all. I wish I could see my Kileen again - I do love you with all my heart and soul. I am all yours my own darling and I shall belong to you forever and ever. I do miss my daily brass so very much and nothing can make up for that loss. God bless you.

Friday - August 7th - Do you know that I love you and adore you more than any woman has ever been loved before? You are my life and I could not live without you. I have had another busy day thank God. May He bless you and keep you safe.

Saturday - August 8th - My own darling, Another week gone and I am nearer to you than ever before. It has been so very hot today and I have had lots of work to do - but I had time to think of you and pray for you. May God bless you.

25 weeks

Sunday August 9th - Had a busy morning with my pack. Thank God for Mess and Communion - it makes such a difference. Mr Kennedy recalled himself to his Room. I find myself becoming far too critical of others in the 1st Div. Camp. Will you help me to see the good in people. You'll have to take me in hand. It is awful to see so many men shut in here together getting on each others nerves!

Monday - August 10th - My darling, I am still in love with you! But I shall always be in love with you. Another busy day thank God; time passes so quickly nowadays. Food situation improves. A soldier came to me today and asked me if I were Dr. Haining he had a message from Mr Banks for me (verbally). He sent me his regards and described me as a great Trustman! What a compliment coming from a Redoubt. God bless you.

Tuesday - August 11th - My darling, another day nearer to you and home. The same glorious sunset is away out in the West and I love you more than ever. A very hot busy day. I prayed especially hard for you today. God bless you.

Wednesday - August 12th - My darling, time is passing so quickly nowadays that I know not where my day goes to. I can only love you more each day of my life. If I could only tell you how safe I am here without being cowardly - it would be more in Egypt or India at the moment. God bless you.

Thursday - August 13th - I have not mentioned that I am living in a barrack room with 8 other officers. It has its advantages and its disadvantages! Not much privacy but plenty of room and back-chat. However it is bright. Our quarters are both the large padding and it is a healthy spot. I love you with all my heart.

Friday August 14th - Another hectic day but still I have time to think of you and love you as never before. Do not forget to wear your divorcee costume when we meet again at Southampton. Oh what a wonderful day in our lives that will be. Love you God bless you.

Saturday - August 15th Feast of The Assumption - You had a special Rosary all to yourself, the afternoon in the little Chapel. Oh my own darling, how I have loved you today in a very special way. You must have been blessed by many in a great measure. May she always keep you under her special protection and may she bring you peace today. God bless you.

Sunday - August 16th (26th Nov.) Thanks a P.O.W. and I am still alive thank God. My darling, I prayed so hard for you as usual at Mass and Communion this morning. Your love and your prayers are helping me alive. Some food has arrived from South Africa for us here - many flowers and cigarettes etc. I wonder if it will help our diet. God bless you.

Monday - August 17th - Had a walk to hospital this afternoon to see some patients. I met some of my old friends from the Field Ambulance and we talked of old times. My darling I love you a little bit more today than ever. May God bless you.

Tuesday - August 18th - Oh horrors of horrors - we have been ordered to remove our beards by the Germans that be (British). And yet I cannot shave mine because I have not got the proper kit! My darling, I do love you so very much today and I shall always love you no matter what happens. God bless you, Eddie.

Wednesday - August 19th - Nothing to report today. I forgot to mention that all our Generals, Brigadiers, Colonels, and 1000 men were shipped to Japan on Sunday last. Last night we had a great night and quite a feast. May God bless you.

Thursday - August 20th - Has been raining the whole evening. It's not much fun remaining indoors looking out at the rain. We had our sweets today from South Africa also a packet of jam such! My darling I love you.

Friday - August 21st - I played in a cricket match today and scored 8 runs! I could scarcely run at all, nor could I throw a ball! I discovered how really weak I am nowadays. Oh would I feel as I have felt! My own darling, do not worry about me - I know I shall be home again to you. God bless you.

Saturday - August 22nd - Lost my beard today - had to shave it off! People hardly recognize me since I appeared. Had a very busy day and the hair brush and stuff I am after my haircut yesterday. I still say Good Morning and God Bless you and Good night.

Sunday - August 23rd - ~~20th~~ (21 letters) - My darling, another day seems to open and our happiness - and another week too. I was busy working till 5 P.M. this evening - I am the only man here has to work on Sunday. I prayed so hard for you today and now I am off to Rossang and a 1st class dinner. I do love you so very much. God bless you.

Monday - August 24th - We had a special treat last night of pea-meat coffee! Seven Officers and 150 men came back from Singapore today; so there will be lots more work to do. There are 17 of us now in this barrack-room and it's quite a crush. I had another lovely dream about you (and Felix) last night, and now I know that I can never love you enough. May God bless and keep you safe.

Tuesday - August 25th - Another busy day - working till 6 P.M. We had a marvellous 5 course dinner to night - if you could only have been there you would realize that we are not exactly starving as P.O.W.s. I do love you still, my Ellen, more. May God and His Holy Mother bless you.

Wednesday - August 26th - My own darling, how I do love you today. There never has been a love like ours and there never will be. I paid a special visit for you to our Chapel and I asked Him to bless you in a special way.

Thursday - August 27th - My darling, I am having a hectic time working the whole day long. How quickly the time is passing but oh how I long for you - how I long for you - your Red Cross letters to me. May God bless you.

Friday - August 28th - Another wonderful dream about you last night. Did you remember kissing me at Spring Well? It was such a happy dream and I love you so much - and now today I love you even more. May God bless you, Ellen.



Saturday - August 29th - My darling, another day as a POW has gone and I am nearer to you than ever before. It has been very hot and I have been very busy. I visited the hospital yesterday afternoon and saw my friend Paddy Keenan dying - he was the finest horseman in India. I also saw Col. Benson (Benny) - he has got Gastritis. God Bless you now and always.

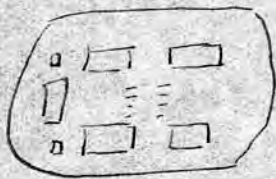
Sunday - August 30th - Another day all to ourselves. I am nearer to you on Sunday than any other day because the time is more slowly than ever. We had a travelling sermon to night by Fr. Kennedy in "The Love of God" and I know so many more things about loving Him and how to love Him. May God Bless you, Eileen.

Monday - August 31st - The regiment paraded this morning on the Padang and the C.O. addressed them. Then I addressed the small tribe about Christmas and food - about Boni Boni and Depenteng. They lecture up at my whole morning and left me late for anything. We formally refused to sign a document swearing not to attempt to escape - the Japanese expect us to sign.

Tuesday - August September 1st - We paraded on the Padang this morning and we were counted by the Japanese officers. I was mixed up with the combatants! I hear that my Red Cross class met mean lunch. I am treated as other soldiers. Have been working all afternoon. I love you my ever darling. God Bless you.

Wednesday - September 2nd (Anne's Birthday) - This morning at 5 a.m. we were awakened by the C.O. and informed that the Japanese intended putting us in a very confined area - 17,000 men! At 7 p.m. we packed up and off we went to our confinement! My darling, it was an awful sight. So many people crushed into so small an area. The sanitation will be an awful problem and I have been made Officer in Charge of Sanitation for our Division!

Thursday - September 3rd - Oh what a night! We have refused again to sign the



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Japanese document declaring that we would not attempt to escape. We have been literally sleeping on top of each other! I shall never forget what I have seen this day - it is indescribable. No like the Black Hole of Calcutta + American Civil War. No sick are being allowed out to hospital! My darling, I love you.

Friday - September 4th - Another day of frustration - of odors, of thirst, of heat and stinking. I met my three officers - George, Johnson Hill and another chap. Two men were shot on Wednesday last by the Japanese as a reprisal for our refusal to sign this document. We have at last decided to sign tomorrow on medical grounds only because of diphtheria and dysentery epidemics. I think the POWs have waited for at least a week.

Saturday - September 5th - We signed the document and were released this afternoon and now we are back again in paradise and left our bell. My darling I am glad in a way that it is over now; you were ever in my thoughts.

Sunday - September 6th ^(28 WHS) - It has been a glorious day - the "peace" day. I prayed so hard for you at Mass and Communion this morning. Fr. Kennedy preached a lovely sermon this evening; followed by the rosary and prayer for peace. God bless you. I am off to a Gramophone recital of "H.M.S. Pinafore".

Monday - September 7th - A very busy day, and a very hot one too. When I think of the happiness we shall have together when we are united again - well it's all too wonderful and makes my prisoner's life really pleasant. My darling, you know how much I do love you. God bless you.

Tuesday September 8th - The usual day in the life of a P.O.W. and the usual outpouring of my love to you. My own darling, you will never know how much I love you - not until we meet again. And then it does not bear thinking about. May God bless you twice.

Wednesday - September 9th : I had a glorious afternoon outside the house with a wood gathering party. I feel so very much better for it. I intend going down to the woods much often in future. I love you very dearly. God bless you.

Thursday - September 10th : How the time is flying and oh how I hope and pray that it is flying towards the end of this awful war. I am hoping to hear from you in the very near future. You have been very irregular with your letters recently! May God and his holy Mother bless and protect you.

Friday - September 11th : My darling, I love you still as much as ever. It is ages since I have seen you or heard from you! You poor darling back at work again in Danagh. However I too am working hard and praying too.

Saturday - September 12th : Another hectic day of work and heat. Have been thinking of you the whole day through. Cannot think of anything but you. May God bless you and keep you safe.

Sunday - September 13th : We had a special treat this evening - Benediction. I think it will be a permanent affair on Sundays. Later I went to a Gramophone recital and it was the end of a perfect day. I sat in the darkness and listened to a marvellous Gramophone concerto and thought of you and loved you more than ever.

Monday - September 14th : A very hectic day but oh how thankful I am to God that I have work to do. There are so many nerves around the place. There are rumours that we are to receive full pay very soon. My back is almost well again. I have even distinguished myself at stock tennis! God bless you my darling.

Tuesday - September 15th : My darling, I do love you so very much to night. It has been raining today and so it is much cooler. The work is not so bad now, so I must start reading again. I did manage a bit of study this afternoon and please God there will be lots more soon. God bless you.

Wednesday - September 16th - I have spent my day making out medical returns for the Imperial Japanese Army! But I still love you my darling and I know that I shall love you forever and ever. Nothing can ever change me. My Ipoh friend Winsky is now in hospital with Diphtheria and I shall go to see him to-morrow.

Thursday - September 17th - My darling, I do love you in the midst of this awful dilemma! I have been working all day and could not visit the hospital as I wanted to. May God bless you and keep you safe from all harm.

Friday - September 18th - A hectic day with heaps of work. Many prisoners arrived from Sumatra - including Dutch. My darling, I do love you. I shall never love any one but you no matter how long I may live. God bless you, Aileen.

Saturday - September 19th - Another busy day - finished at 6 P.M. I have not been so happy or so healthy for ages as I am to night. There is a marvellous sunset in the Western Skies. To-morrow is our day and I love you so.

Sunday - September 20th - My darling, didn't you hear me praying for you this morning. I have been working the whole day long - have a present to you. Father Kennedy came in today and he is to lend me a book by R. H. Benson. He is a Grand chap. May God bless you my darling.

Monday - September 21st - My darling, I love you even more today. This has been the hottest day so far and it has been a breeze too. Nothing exciting today. Lots of bugs around last night. A marvellous gramophone concert last night in the Anonlight - Wagner, Il Trovatore, Faust, Upohudi Muehin. God bless you.

Tuesday - September 22nd - A hot sticky day with lots of work. Do you still love me, Aileen although I have you fallen in love with some American lad in the Army. Why should you love me anyway? I have no right to your love or your friendship. God bless you.

Wednesday - September 23rd - I was invited out to tea today by Dr Ponsford my former pal of the Field Ambulance and 'Pindi days. Very hot today. Heaps of peanuts eaten! May God bless you. I love you.

Thursday - September 24th - The days are passing quickly and I love you with all my heart. Please remind me to buy "God and Reason" and "On What Authority" - they are grand Catholic books. God bless you.

Friday - September 25th - My own darling, I had a marvellous dream about you last night and I awoke happy and gay. As usual Felix was in my dream too. May God bless you.

Saturday - September 26th - My darling, another hot, sticky depressing day. But it cannot ever be too dull for me - I have always got my God and you. You are all that I live for. To-morrow is our day again. God bless you.

Sunday - September 27th - My darling, it has been a happy day because it was spent ^{with} you and with Ben. We have heard that a ship has arrived with Red Cross stores - maybe there is a letter for you. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - September 28th - A hot day with heaps of work. The Japanese medical people are coming down to examine our sick and wounded for Repatriation. I love you more than ever and I know that it will never change.

Tuesday - September 29th - Have not felt well recently but am better today. Still working hard and still loving you. Had a nice evening after supper with Major Nell 1405 (my Australian friend). I had a grand evening -

Wednesday - September 30th - Gramophone concert (Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto No. 4).

Thursday - September 30th - Have arranged to visit hospital to-morrow. I am going with Ponsford to see Col. Benson. Have had a hectic day dealing with a food poisoning epidemic. I love you. May God bless you.

Thursday - October 1st - Went to hospital by Ambulance Car. Gen Col. Benson and he is much better. It is almost dark now. God bless you

Friday - October 2nd - My own darling, I have neglected you, but I know you will understand. When I came back from hospital yesterday I had a long meeting w/ the Japanese Medicals came to examine my wounded knee for reparation. I learned that my friend Wemyss had called to see me while I was at hospital. I was very sorry to have missed him. I love you a bit more today my Ellen.

Saturday - October 3rd - A hot and sticky day and I love you with all my heart and soul. We had Benediction last night and Oh I asked Him to bless me and you my darling. Evening devotion always remind me of Clemmie and you. Do you remember the days when I used wait for you on Springfield Road!

Sunday October 4th - My darling, it has been a happy day. We had a grand sermon from Fr. Kennedy this evening. And now I am off across the Padang to hear "Pirates of Penzance" in a Gramophone recital. God bless you

Monday - October 5th - The music last night was grand - it always brings me back home to you and my dear ones. Young woman! I cannot possibly love you any more - you have all my love and all of me.

Tuesday - October 6th - I have been to the hospital today by ambulance car and met many old acquaintances. My darling, I love you to night more than ever. The others are off to an Australian Concert. May God bless you

Wednesday October 7th - Father Kennedy has pitched a tent on the Padang and intends using it as his home. Our hymn last night was "I'll sing a hymn to Mary" - one of my favorites. I still love you, Ellen Anne.

Thursday - October 8th - Heaps of Red Cross food arrived today - and how welcome it is. I have started my Zetings again! God bless you

Friday - October 11th - Working so busy today my darling. I was in a happy mood. Spent hours converting a pair of khaki shorts turn-ups into a pair of ordinary shorts! You should see my very fine needlework. My kit is very complete & my shoes are as good as new; all my socks and stockings are intact. I have you Helen and am waiting so patiently for a letter from you. All the Red Cross things arriving make me humbly. May God bless you.

Saturday - October 10th - A busy day but that was endurable. We had a feast at dinner to night - a Red Cross dinner! However I managed it all! My sore feet are better because I am eating my rice porridges! May God bless you, darling.

Sunday - October 11th - I had a very pleasant afternoon with Mrs. Winsey. I managed an afternoon tea and biscuits! Poor chap looks ill and has lost lots of weight. He is a Sergeant in the Volunteers. My darling I love you more today.

Monday - October 12th - A routine busy day with my sore feet to help me along. I took out Felix's wedding group today and oh how lovely you looked in it. I'll say Good morning and Good night to you. God bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - October 13th - We had an officers' parade today - a thank roll call by the Japanese. The heat was intense. My darling, you know how much I love you - I can never love you enough no matter how long I may live. God bless you.

Wednesday - October 14th - We were paid today (£20) - chess. I bought some soap and sweets. My darling, I had a very happy dream last night and oh how I love you with all my heart and soul. God bless you.

Thursday - October 15th - We had lots of sweets and biscuits from the Cross today. Rumours of some mail today - would it be grand if I could have a letter from you. Oh Helen Alannah you will ^{not} have ~~to~~ to wait long.

Friday - October 16th - I am sitting on the steps of the mess and looking

out at a beautiful sunset and my thoughts are with you as ever. My Celia

I do love you as man has never loved before and I shall always love you.

^{impression}
Saturday - October 17th - My darling, I still love you. The regiment has been detailed to proceed to Hankoh to build a railway and I may be going along with them. We had our first ~~train~~ Stations last night. May God bless you.

Sunday - October 18th - My darling, our day has been the serene joyous one of happiness. I was expecting a visit from Mrs. Winsey and had arranged to have tea with Mr. Kennedy in his lovely tent. I visited the latter just before lunch today and had quite a short talk with him. May God bless you. I am giving special prayers!!

Monday - October 19th - Poor Mr. Kennedy was flooded out today and had to take out his tent with buckets. When it rains here it pours. The rainy season is now approaching and it should be horrible. We had a grand lecture to night from the Rev. Dr. Herbert Krampton. We have to wear Red Cross and walk at night. How nice I am happy things thank God. I offer up my sore feet daily. They are improving. God bless you.

Tuesday - October 20th - My own darling, I am so very happy this morning because I was dreaming of you. As usual you were smiling and oh how I poured out my heart to you. I only realize now how much I love you. God bless you Celia.

Wednesday - October 21st - I shall not have to leave Changi after all if the unit leaves. This has made me so very happy. We had a grand talk last night by a British naval officer from the "Bantam" cruise. My darling, you have never been so near to me.

Thursday - October 22nd - I am having special Marmite treatment for my sore feet. Had eggs and toffee today at Canteen. We had a grand sing-song in our mess last night. I sang "The Wearing of the Green", "Danny Boy", and "Come back to Erin". God bless you.

Friday - October 23rd - Thousands of Japanese troops arrived today in their green uniforms. They are mostly Dutch and very charming. I attended to their sick last night.

I had a hard seat and bed in the floor - I gave my bed up to the weary men.

Saturday - October 24th - I was detained to go overseas to Japan to married but it was suddenly cancelled for some reason or another. The whole of 8.0 A.M. are leaving to morrow. I love you very much starting... To Kennedy's when is going away too.

Sunday - October 25th - My darling, they have all gone off to Japan and I am still in Singapore. I have about 200 sick men to attend to daily - not to mention Japanese Dutch who come and go in their hundreds. No brass today. Very busy. Jimmy came in the afternoon and I gave him a new pair of boots and a lovely cushion. My darling, I love you now more than ever before and I shall always love you no matter what happens. May God bless you.

Monday - October 26th - What a busy day this has been for me. Hundreds of sick and I moved with the dentist to new quarters - we are sharing a room. The new mess is small - kept of us - but very comfortable. Keeps of four rawlings. God bless you.

Tuesday - October 27th - Oh dear! I have now 15.00 Dutch from you to look after as well as my own sick. I have made 3 good friends in 3 Dutch doctors - one many and two army. They help me quite a lot. I work all day. May God bless you.

Wednesday - October 28th - Very busy morning. Went to hospital in afternoon and saw Frank in hospital. He was in Grand spirits because he had a letter from his wife (nee Goss of Gen Rd.). She wrote it in June 1942. I love you still.

Thursday - October 29th - My darling, do you realize that I am with you all day and every day. All these months have only kept me to love you more and more. You will not have long to wait till your happiness becomes supreme. God bless you.

Friday - October 30th - God sent me a lovely dream of you last night and I am still recalling in its joys. Oh my love, I do not deserve your love, but you have all of me and all my love. The Dutch are keeping me busy. God bless you.

Saturday - October 31st - We had a lovely Stations of the Cross last night but we have no priest yet. You would have loved the Dutch choir which sang "Stabat Mater", no Mass in this area tomorrow but there is one at 10.30 to-morrow, ^{in Australian camp} - just when my work is due to begin; on Sunday I cannot have Mass. Oh how I will always appreciate Mass in the future. I have made good friends among the Dutchmen. God bless you, my darling.

Sunday November 1st - Had an awful night - no sleep till 5am but had my first sleep in till 9am! Last night Pongford and a Dutch friend came and had Cocoa with me - then we went to a Sing song at the Sergeants Mess. Today has been busy but I had time to entertain Winsey and my Dutch pal to tea and biscuits & fritters! The latter produced hundreds of marvellous coloured Snaps of Java and Sumatra. Everyone was charmed with my new pal! I gave Winsey toothbrush and blades and sent Gervaise to him as he may be sent to Siam this week. My darling I dreamed of you and your mammie last night - met you walking to Spring Villa on Springfield Road! How I know how much I love you both. God bless you.

Monday November 2nd ^{All Souls} - My darling, I have a strange feeling of optimism recently but I am restless too. There are not many troops left in Singapore now and my turn may be next to move. We had our final Gramophone concert last night. Traviata and it was swelling to hear God music, followed by Cocoa with my Dutch pal outside our Mess. Yours are ever in my thoughts and prayers my dearest Helen.

Tuesday - November 3rd - I have been to see the eye Specialist this afternoon and I have got Keratitis due to Vitamin deficiency. I cannot read or see well but please God it will mend soon with care. May God bless you my own darling.

Wednesday - November 4th - Said farewell to Frank to Hongkong yesterday - going to Siam. I saw an Australian eye Specialist today (Major Orr) and he gave me great hopes about my eyes. Black out to night. I loved you my own darling. God bless you.

Thursday - November 5th - A restful day because of rain. My friend Ketzger came this afternoon and produced some snags of Holland and Sumatra. You will soon be having your Christmas holidays again without me in spite of my promise last year to be with you. I have been thinking of Cambridge today! God bless you.

Friday - ^{November} August 6th - My darling what must you think of me now - no letters for about a year! And yet I have loved you more and more each day of that year - you have never left my thoughts for a moment. It is so cruel of me and selfish to ask you to wait all this time for me, but I cannot avoid this. Nothing exciting to say.

Saturday - November 7th - I am much stronger now days and have long solitary walks around the landing each evening - also I pull the sheet a bit. My eyes do not improve. A quiet day with you - wondering what you were doing each moment. First mass of Mass tomorrow in our chapel at 10.30 am. I am in high glee - have arranged the sick parade to be much earlier so that I can get to mass and Communion. God bless you my darling.

Sunday - November 8th - I dreamed last night that someone was singing "Gloria Allumina". Oh what a happy day this has been for me - I have been in an ecstasy of joy. I have never been so near to you and to our God. If you only knew how many prayers I have asked of Him for you, Helen - and yet you do not need prayer because you are God and always have been. If only I knew that you were not worrying. An Irish priest in the Australian Army said Mass and has promised to come again tomorrow at 3 am. My love for you is so bound up with love of God. May He bless you.

Monday - November 9th - Mass and Holy Communion today again - more and more happiness, more and more love for you. There are only a few thousand troops left in charge and I am still lucky to be here too - Thailand is not so good! God bless you.

Tuesday - November 10th - A quiet day, nothing much to say. A quiet love you has never before. Please hurry up and write to me. God bless you now & always.

Wednesday - November 11th My darling, the doctor is leaving me soon, I may join up with my next door neighbour - Capt. Gordon Brown. He is a Gunner officer who was badly wounded in the battle by a cannon fire a tank. He has lost his right arm and his left leg is smashed. I am teaching him to walk without crutches. He didn't believe it was possible. He is one of the grandest lads I have ever met. You would love him better. But please don't because I am so much in love with you.

Thursday - November 12th My dearest one, another day of happiness. Mass and Communion this morning. The Australian (Irish) priest has come 3 times this week and long may it continue. I began my diary today - it is especially for you and is a short account of my military career since December 2nd 1939. I shall soon be 3 years a Soldier - 3 precious years of our lives apparently wasted. But you know best.

Friday - November 13th Oh my darling, did you know that I love you as never before - as no woman has ever been loved before. Oh my better, how I hate myself for being so cruel to you in the past, but now please God it is not too late to make amends to you for everything. I shall never be able to love you enough. God bless you.

Saturday - November 14th We have a new Artillery brass now - 3 officers. It is much more cheery. One of the officers is a brother of Fr. Ronald Brock. We are eating well nowadays - even smoking cigars! It would be grand if I were left here till the end. Hope to have mass & Communion tomorrow. God bless you.

Sunday - November 15th Oh my darling, I do not deserve such happiness and I do not deserve you. What have I done to have you at all. I wrote a long extract in my military diary today - I am now crossing the Channel!

Monday - November 16th A busy day with lots of walking around latrines. A P.D.W. doctor has an awful time while other officers have nothing to do. My darling, do you still love me and do you still want to wait for me? God bless you.

Tuesday - November 17th - Another hectic day & a visit to Graham Orr. My eyes are a little better - I have got Retinobulbar neuritis, cause due to deficient vitamins. I feel myself growing stronger. Really thank God. My darling I shall see you soon again. God bless you.

Wednesday - November 18th - I have had a dreamy day and I dreamed of you and made plans for our future together. We will have the happiest home that has ever been known. I become too happy when I even think about it. Oh my, believe how I do love you my darling.

Thursday - November 19th - I have done heaps of sewing and knitting today. My darling you should see my socks nowadays - they are just a mass of daisies! We have a marvellous collection of officers now - soldiers, machine brokers, chemists, accountants, a dentist, a doctor (me!), an agricultural inspector, a teacher, 1 Cambridge graduate & 2 undergraduates, 1 brilliant Oxford classical scholar (complete with specs).

Friday - November 20th - After a hectic morning I went to see Col. Benson at hospital. He looks so much better though he has Quincke's Signaling. I brought him a packet of cigars and he was so grateful for them. We have a long chat about our Field Ambulance days. When oh when, will your first letter arrive. God bless you my darling.

Saturday - November 21st - I have been cruising down the Andamanian this afternoon in my dream! I know you would have loved it, with no funny race boys aboard. We have quite a farm here now in the mess. I am awakened each morning by the clucking of hens and the quacking of our ducks and ducklings. And now the Japanese are getting us 200 pigs to start a piggyery nearby. I bought many cheroots for Benny today. God bless you.

Sunday - November 22nd - My darling, it is our day again and it has been perfect. I had Confession, Mass, & Communion at 10.30 am this morning. The priest did not have to tell us how thankful we should be to God for having so many good things in a P.O.W. Camp. I do thank Him daily for everything He has given me. He has even given you to me and that is something which I value above all else on earth. I do love you, my darling.

Monday - November 23rd :- Visited Benny today in hospital and brought him
 bags of his beloved cigars. He was very thrilled about them. He is coming out
 of hospital tomorrow and has promised to have lunch with me next week at our
 Mess. Fr. Kovalic ^{Nephew} ~~brother~~ is now living with us now. I think he is a good
 chap. He is off on his fishing and he is very good to the natives in treating their sores.

Tuesday - November 24th :- My darling, do you know that I love you above all else
 in this world. I even owe my life to you because I would have faded away in the
 P.D.W. Camp were it not for you. A quiet day with no incidents. There is a hurricane
 raging outside now and I love it. I am in perfect health again thank God.

Wednesday - November 25th :- A note from Benny today saying that he will
 come to lunch on Saturday. We had Lord de Ramsey (Major R.A.) to lunch today -
 he is the pig man of our area now! I mean he is running our pig farm! He was
 not treated in lordly fashion by us as he had some bully beef with the rest. God bless you.

Thursday - November 26th :- My darling, I have grand walks each evening around
 the Padang - these moments are specially for you. Ranford all comes back to me - my
 idol bringing; then comes my memories of every little thing about you - Ranogie,
 Ceclides, 10 hand reels. What on earth did you think of me as I dragged your footsteps everywhere.

Friday - November 27th :- I am reading John G. Miller's "Inside Asia" - it is a
 terrific book and very very interesting to me. I have learned a lot about Chinese, Indian,
 Japanese, Javanese, Malaya etc since coming East. Punsford came to see me after dinner
 and we had a walk around the Padang. A note from Benny today saying that he cannot
 come to lunch tomorrow - not quite fit for the walk yet. Love you both. God bless you.

Saturday - November 28th :- I had a lovely walk to hospital this afternoon and saw
 Benny. I had more cigars for him. He has left the ward and is now in a R.A.M.
 Mess at hospital. He has promised to come to lunch on Saturday next. God bless you.

Sunday - November 29th : Another happy Sunday with you and our Lord. Surely you must hear me each day telling you how much I love you. My darling, words can never express my love for you. There is no end to it. May God bless you. Helen.

Monday - November 30th : I sang our national song, Helen Hamilton, Helen Brown & as I had my evening walk around the Padang last night, I heard a soldier playing "Kevin Barry" on a piano this morning, another man in our backhouse whistling it! What paradoxes I have met in this war. Today (St. Andrew's) has been successful. God bless you.

Tuesday - December 1st - I am reading "Inside Serbia" still - we must have it in our library. Have you bought our dog yet Helen? I am dying to get home again to you and everything and everyone I should like to see. I had a grand game of Monopoly with Burgess, Brown, Long, French, and Watkins last night. I won easily but I laughed so much during the game that tears streamed down my cheeks! Can you imagine a bird being happy like that?

Wednesday - December 2nd : 3 years a soldier today! My darling, I am not really a soldier. I am the same. I met Murray last night when he saw you in fox off Dargat. I pray that I may never change from your side. Oh my Helen I cannot love you enough.

Thursday - December 3rd : My darling, do you know that I love you above all others in this world. Nobody else really matters compared with you - nobody can compare with you in my eyes. I had another hectic game of Monopoly to night and won again against Jones, Knight & Burgess. Was in terrific form. God bless you.

Friday - December 4th : My birthday (30th!). I treated myself to a bag of Langensie oranges, 6 bars of soap, a trip to hospital with Gordon Brown's kit, a visit to Beving, a trip to the sea shore, and many many happy thoughts of you. I felt you so near to me during the whole of this day of days. God bless you.

Saturday - December 5th : A happy busy day but raining heavily. I am now reading "Home in the Spur" (Howard Spring). My darling, I love you as never before. May God bless you.

Sunday - December 6th Oh my darling, I have been so very happy today. Mass & Communion, and a special Rosary in the afternoon for you. Being a Catholic is just the most wonderful thing on earth - and being in love with you and you with me makes life perfect in every way. It has rained all day and all last night. God bless you.

Monday - December 7th - Rain ran for 72 hours without ceasing! Had some peanut toffee yesterday & Gula Malacca today. We are being spotted as P.O.W.s here. We heard that a Red Cross ship is due in tomorrow. I pray that it carries a letter from you.

Tuesday - December 8th (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) - 1st Anniversary of Malaya War. I said a very special Rosary to night for you my darling & you who are a shield of Mary. It is still raining. Went to bed at midnight last night - a black out night. We have started a small literary society - 8 of us. French, Knox, James, Long, Rame, Wimp, Wellock and myself. We set around a table during the blackout sipping coffee. Last night we told 2 stories among ourselves - each man make his special contribution. You would have roared with laughter. I took up the story when an omnibus train was dashing all our London Tube railways with the villain on board! Had a lovely walk this morning at dawn by the sea.

Wednesday - December 9th - Another black out last night and still raining! Our literary was in full swing - this time a serial poem. When the verse was not considered good we had to stand up in a chair and sing a named song at full blast - we all sang, I had to sing Kelly of Killan!! Am looking forward to tonight. God bless you.

Thursday - December 10th - Rained all night and all day! We had a big discussion last night on politics. I was agin' everything. I played the English for their treatment of the Irish and Indians! French's grandfather was Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.

Friday - December 11th Rain has stopped at last, but I spent most of the day in bed - Rheumatic knee. All is well tonight thank God. Ferdinando and Consuela came to see me. I am finishing my book. Peace is the Spur. God bless you Eileen.

Saturday - December 12th I had long chat with Major Soper last night. His people have settled in the Gaeltacht of Scotland (highlands). He has written a book and has asked me to read it and correct the few lines of Gaelic in it. I was very flattered. He told me all about the Catholic highlands and the Gaelic people there. It reminded me of our Dingle days and the great folk of Keshford - it reminded me of our young love. Give bless you

Sunday - December 13th Letters have arrived at Japanese 11 A. but alas there are none for me! However I am content and happy to wait. My darling, I love you more than you could imagine possible. I have been to Confession, Mass, and Communion today. I have had my usual happy day with you but yesterday I spent with you. I have started to read 'The Green and the Gold' (Soper) today. May God bless you Helen

Monday - December 14th I spent the whole afternoon in the beauty of the highlands of Scotland in Green & Gold. I am in love with Deirdre - the heroine and have forgotten all about Helen & home! You know that I would never really love anyone but you.

Tuesday - December 15th My darling, you are right that lots more letters have arrived from home. I hope and pray it is true and that there will be one from you. Am still reading the book; nothing exciting happening these days. My love grows deeper and more true.

Wednesday - December 16th My darling, I am so very happy these days because I love you so much. I have just confessed to Soper that I am the happiest man in the camp! And yet I remember there is an ache at my heart - longing for home and you.

Thursday - December 17th I had a wonderful run around the landing tonight. I am going to start my games in the near future again. I have long since missed the old Irish flapping football and hockey. My darling, I love you a little but none today.

Friday - December 18th My darling, I want to see Penny today and he really is coming to lunch tomorrow. Had a long chat with Mickey Doyle at hospital today. Also saw Gordon Brown & Freddie Watson. I enjoyed the walk also the breakfast & sundae! Give bless you

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Saturday - December 19th - My darling, I was at a Masonic concert in the Australian Camp - I laughed till my sides were aching! I was in love with the Girls! Being home to lunch at last and had a nice afternoon together. We are having 20 new Officers to-morrow. (It was Miss Cooper who took me to the concert)

Sunday - December 20th - I have had a wonderfully happy day thank you. Eileen I have do you realize that though it breaks my heart to be separated from you, I am as it is possible to be under these circumstances. Oh my dearest child what would my life be like in here if there was no Eileen to think about and to love with all my heart. Mass and Communion this morning and I asked him to bring you peace today and always. I sent it strange that the priest said today that he is offering Holy Mass to-morrow for all our relatives, ^{and friends} that God might bring them peace of mind, that they might not worry about us here, that He might comfort and console them. I can only manage Sunday Mass but how I long for daily Mass. We are to have Sunday Mass in our Chapel here. Father Whelan is coming across on Thursday evening for it. God is so good to me here with all these graces. I will also have Mass at 8:30 am on Christmas morning. Our Chapel is beginning to look very 'Christmasy' - GOSIA IN EXCELSIS DEO is all ready with holly painted around it! The Gramophone concert to-might is Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D flat, also the Musical.

Monday - December 21st - My darling I had a marvellous dream about you last night. You looked lovely, Eileen, and I loved you as much as ever. It has been a quiet day with nothing exciting to report. I am sure you are having a better time preparing for Christmas. Do you remember my Christmas Card of 2 years ago when I fluffed up my nose & courage to write "Love - Frank"? I was cheeky then but I adore you now.

Tuesday December 22nd - My darling, I feel ashamed of myself for not being at home this Christmas with you as I promised. Oh I do hope the candlesticks reached you safely. Don't forget to bring a bundle for me. Nothing today, still happy, must report tonight. God bless you.

Wednesday - December 23rd. - I am now reading CRIPPLED SPENDOUR (Waverley) - an historical novel about James V of Scotland. It is good but there is too much anti-Church in it. A quiet day but a happy one; I wish you could have sat beside me in the garden this afternoon - I was reading in the sun near a banana tree but there would have been no reading with you at my side.

Thursday - December 24th. - I had my first game of football today and enjoyed it thoroughly. I can actually kick the ball! Our chapel looks perfect this evening and all is ready for midnight mass - ropes of candles, burning palms and tropical plants, and an electric spotlight. Father Wilton is staying the night with us and saying 8.30 mass at Christmas Day. You know that my thoughts are ever with you, but tonight more especially. I saw you at midnight mass in 1938 at St. Brigid's; I shall pray even harder for you to meet them there. I am writing this at an unaccountable writing desk (cabinet bureau) - Freddie Crossley gave to me before going to paper. I have just received a Christmas card and a calendar - the card has shamrocks and holly on it - the calendar - a map of Ireland and England! God bless you my darling.

Friday - Christmas Day 1942 - My own darling, let me thank you all the joy and all the blessing that you deserve today. My first Christmas day as a P.O.W. and oh what happiness I have had. It all began with midnight mass in our little wooden thatched-roofed chapel on the padding. A quiet little Antioch priest said mass and gave us a beautiful talk; the Dutch priest sang the mass and the usual cards. The whole setting was perfect - I have never appreciated vintage men properly. Need I tell you that you were with me all the time at my side and I prayed so very hard for you that the Infant Child would give you all yours. There were about 100 at communion and my own was specially for your intention. Mike Cooper was with me, also Major Spencer and Peter Cooper in the Sanctuary. As I walked back to my room after mass having worn all and sundry a happy Christmas, I knew that my Christmas would be happy too. It was a silent night, a cloudless sky, a moon above but NO SNOW! Mass again this morning at 8.30 a.m. and it was for you, Catherine. We had a 'riches' breakfast. I forgot to tell you that the mass was decorated with paper & flags last night;

I noticed that the Irish flag was missing so I coloured in a large Tricolour and put it in a prominent place at the top of the room. There were many catcalls etc. but nobody dared touch my flag! My flag was shown to the Area Commander. Some Dutch officers came to visit us this morning and I was pleased that at least one of them recognised the Irish flag! Somebody superimposed a small Red Hand on my flag to annoy me but I was charmed and wrote "Su hain deapz uair sh' unde it! I made a Christmas Card for my best girl, composed a verse which I dedicated to her, and sealed it in an envelope (address), all ready for posting - "May the Infant Jesus protect and bless you; May Mary His Mother, love and compass you; May Joseph the humble be your light; May the Angels above bring you joy this night." Then came a nice lunch (light). Burgess and I then went off to hospital and saw Brown, Watkins and McKenzie; also Campbell (Belfast), Major Bloom and Col. Davidson (105). They were all in terrific form. Back me home for tea (+ sugar & milk!) + bread, butter and jam! A bath and then a drink at the Angles Rest outside the mess. Then dinner for which I loudly changed the gong and helped to serve the roast pork and real Christmas Pudding! My flag was still waving after dinner. We then had a concert by the men - it was grand fun. Back to the mess for cocoa (milk & sugar!) and toffee! Then a sick call to Colin Campbell (2/2 Gorkhas) across the parking at 1.30 am. Then singing till 2.30 am. I sang Danny Boy, The harp that Once, The Rose of Tralee, Wearing of the Green, Minstrel Boy, home back to Erin. For the past 26 hours I have been heckled about Ireland, Irishmen, and Irish flags, but all in fun. Everyone agreed that the Irish songs were refreshing after Woodcock's Fair!

Boxing Day 1942 - Saturday - We are back again to realities today - work & rice!

It has been a quiet day but restful after yesterday's activities. I love you even more today and I know that I shall continue to love you for ever and ever. Nothing can ever change me - I am so very sure of my love. May God bless you.

Sunday - December 27th - My darling, do you love me as much as I love you? It must be an awful lot if you do because at times, I think that having given you all my love, there cannot be any more left inside me. Mass and Holy Communion to day for you; Benediction this evening. Had a long chat with the Irish-Catholic priest afterwards (hasn't seen Ireland for 13 yrs!). God bless you.

Monday - December 28th - A day of peace and quiet. Your little Goff soap, face brush, and thimble are all on the wall by my bed. Your little Robinson & Gleason photographs are still in my cigarette case with your lock of hair and the miraculous medal. God bless you, Celea.

Tuesday - December 29th - I have been studying a book on venereal diseases today - I need all the medical study possible, as I am getting ready to go out here. I am making you a very special calendar for the new year but heather knows when you will receive it. Love you.

Wednesday - December 30th - Letters are coming in for officers and men nowadays but none for yours truly as yet. That can only make me love you all the more. I am still studying a lot and learning things I have never known about before. Glenridding had a letter from his father at Portmabel yesterday. My darling, I hope you are having grand holidays. God bless you.

Thursday - December 31st - New Year eve - what a year this has been as a P.O.W.! Where it has gone to I know not. I have been busy making a diet return for the I.S.A. this evening. There is a bonfire in the lines and there should be fun and games to night. God bless you.

Friday - January 1st 1943 - I had a hectic night celebrating the new year arrival. We had bonfires around the bonfires till midnight, then all joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne". Then up to the mess - the others in by the front door and I moved to the back to windows to await developments! I fired two cartridges tearing down my medals, as in the window I hoped and followed the ball. We had a wild dance over tables and chairs and I ended up with an English one tucked under each arm - it was a famous victory over the English! ^{all in fun!} Then I climbed up and removed the Union Jack! I was elected M.C. for the Singing in the mess, made a table my platform and opened the proceedings with "Blessed be of all those...". All the officers did their turn - including 3 Dutchmen.

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New Year's Day 1943

I sang three more Irish songs and had all the Community singing. I was very happy with these lads of Oxford and Cambridge etc. Our concert ended at 2am. I was up for Mass and Holy Communion at 8.30 and then I was happier still and nearer to you. It has been a happy day too. My room is now a blaze of colour - beautiful ladies, periwinkles, Chincinno, tangle, bullock carts and pastel junks. My darling, a happy and a holy New Year to you and may this year see me restored to you again. I shall always love you, Lileen. God bless you.

Saturday January 2nd - Lt Col. Sanderson M.C. arrived today and is living next door to me. He is the new A.D.M.S. of I.D.W. I have made a glutten of myself eating toffee today.

My darling I love you with all my heart and soul. Don't have a letter today.

Sunday January 3rd My darling, another marvellous dream about you last night. I dreamt of father too and a letter from home. Now I wish that dreams would always come true. I have had another happy day - thanks to our dear Lord.

Monday - January 4th We had benediction last night and that made my Sunday happiness complete. My darling, I love you as I have never loved or thought I could love. A quiet day. The rats have been even eating my status of the Sacred Heart!

Tuesday - January 5th - I did a bit of sun-bathing today in the Padang with Peter Coope (a Catholic officer). People out here would die without the hot sun. This is the cool season, but it is just hot enough. I love you, Lileen and I shall always love you.

Wednesday - January 6th My darling, I have just returned from a pantomime "Cinderella" done by the Australians - it was wonderful. As usual I fell in love with Cinderella - not moved at the ugly sister. The costumes and scenery were superb. The deaf boys were grand so was Prince Charming and the King. My darling, I love you more to day. God bless you.

Thursday January 7th I have started Lawrence's "Seven Pillars of Wisdom". It has been glorious today - a strong cool wind with lots of sunshine - almost like home. Now I wish I were at home now with you. Nothing else to report today.

Friday - January 8th - Nice you knew that your Frank is a very famous person - my name appears in the local pantomime & several other papers. ~~today~~ See Doctor ~~himself~~, had love to see you. (reference some feet etc.) I have been studying the song catalogue of Knipper & Weber today my darling. I have awful fears of reproach when I think how I have let you down on that subject. But I just could not do anything else about it. We have been waiting today in the padding.

Saturday - January 9th - My new medical society is a Cambridge mathematician! I feel sorry for him having to mix as a quack with a bunch of knaves. However his new job has removed him from the barrack room and now he has a place to himself where he can study and read a play etc. Standish, Goper, Howe, Wilcock and I sat under the moon and talked about love. I gave no information away but I could see how little they knew about it. Thank you I love you so much, Ellen.

Sunday - January 10th - Confession, Mass, Communion, Benediction, Rosary and you have made this another perfect day for me. Oh Ellen my darling, please let me see you soon again. Please tell me again that you love me - I cannot live without your love. There was a grass fire in the gun position today & many fine beaters were making feeble efforts to put it out. I dashed along with two buckets of water and put the whole show out! It was dangerous because of so much ammunition and explosion in the magazines. God bless you.

Monday - January 11th - I met Fr. Seaton (an Irish Catholic priest) last night - he is great fun. There are 3 Centralians (Irish) now visit our chapel - Fr. Dolan, Rodgers, and Seaton. A quiet day at the bottom of our garden watching seven pillars. Saw a grand play to night "The Admirable System" (Barrie). I went with Louplou. Our dog Jack had a classic duel with a local hound and was really. I had my usual walk under the stars and moon with you my darling. To night I was back again at Courtwellan (Mrs Savage's party) when I heard "Teddy Bear Picnic". A very shy and very embarrassed Ellen sat beside me in a petticoat and just told me to hop it! God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - January 12th - A quiet uneventful day, but all the more time to think of you and love you more and more. Three Dutch Officers to dinner to night. God bless you my darling.

Wednesday - January 13th - Went to hospital this afternoon to see Gordon Brown, Samy and Watkins. They were in grand form. The Dutch people are all leaving for Bangkok tomorrow. I am sorry Dr. Vorsteeg is going. God bless you, Celia.

Thursday - January 14th - Just like a day at home - dull, cloudy and cool. I am still very fit thank God. I am so very happy these days and only one thing is missing - you my darling. I do miss you and do want to be near to you, and always will want you. It is God and you who have given me happiness here. I have started a series of Anatomy, Physiology, and first aid lectures to my medical orderlies (including the Cambridge man!). God bless you.

Friday - January 15th - A quiet happy day. Not much work to do. The rest of the Dutch are going off tomorrow but 1000 more will arrive on Sunday. This means heaps of work to do, but I don't mind a bit. I do thank God for this ideal L.D.W. camp - the chance of having Mass and Communion weekly is wonderful; the Blessed Sacrament is always in our tabernacle; the food is good, climate is ideal, plenty of clothes & boots; \$10.00 a month. I am having far too nice a time here - much better than in Kerantan suburbs! God bless you, Celia.

Saturday - January 16th - I have now got the parts of my Old Beauty Jean and the Mountains of Moorne - I am learning them off for St. Patrick's Day! Another quiet day but I love you more than ever before. Rosary in chapel & many trimmings; my usual lectures and now to bed.

Sunday - January 17th - Another wonderful Sunday. Rose at 8 am; sick parade 8.30 - 9.30; Mass and Communion at 10.30; breakfast 11.30; weekly medical returns; lunch 1.30; sick parade 2.30; tea 4 pm; rain - study; 6 pm bath; dinner 6.30; benediction & Rosary at 7.45 pm; Locsa 8.30; Gramophone Concert 9.45 - 10.30; bed 11 pm. That is my usual Sunday. The earlier Mass at 8.30 clashes with my sick parade. I served Mass today and was near to Him that I have ever been. I even shared the Sacred Host with Fr. Rodgers as I was the Sole Communicant. I served also at evening Devotion. Oh my darling am I not very privileged to be allowed so near to Him. I asked so many prayers for you today. God bless you.

Monday - January 18th - My darling, I am still happy and I still love you. I shall have a big job soon - two incursions twice to each man in the area against Popwell and Sycamore. 700 Dutch troops are due in to our area this evening. This means more work & thank business. I am reading Quality Chase (Marjorie Pittman) etc. all about Bham. God bless you, Eileen

Tuesday - January 19th - The Dutch did not arrive but are now due at any moment. I have had a quiet day again. Sycamore is re-appearing in the camp again. I have letters arrived today but none for me. May be one will come tomorrow on your birthday. Have a present for you! God bless you.

Wednesday - January 20th (your Birthday) - My own darling, this should have been such a happy day for us but it has been sad for me. I have been lonely and missed you more today than at any time before. I have loved you this day as never before. Having happy returns of the day, my darling. I am giving you my travelling clock as a birthday present - it is all I have to give. God bless you.

Thursday - January 21st - Two things about your birthday. I played in a big football match for R.A. against the Gentlemen - I was right back and played really well. It was a scoreless draw. Third many, many congratulations. It was like old Cherryvale and Carrigan Park. I said a special Rosary last night in chapel for you my darling. Nothing much happened today. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - January 22nd - Last night I sat on the mantelpiece outside the fire and smoked my favourite cigarette. The others were delighted with it, someone suggested Soldier Song - and I obliged! Then came Kevin Barry and mountains of music, Eileen Aron (which some widgeo Galtch claimed to be John Aron!) and Eileen Delaney. I met Fr. Sinton today at an Australian rugby match. He was at All Hallows with Mick Lavelle and Jimmy Laffin, both friends of mine. Mick is now in New Zealand & Jimmy in England. Fr. Sinton has played hockey and Gaelic football, been to Croke Park etc. He is to send me The Search of Putanda (H.S. Hunter). God bless you - I love you Eileen.

Saturday - January 23rd - I had a grand game of hockey today - we lost 4-0 but I loved it. Marvellous breezy dry weather, cool but sunny for past week. I am in marvellous health thank God and full of beans. My darling, I love and adore you with all my heart and soul.

Sunday - January 24th - Mass and Communion; Pray and Benediction - and happiness galore. Dined at Brass and at Jewett's. I love being near to Ann and you my darling. I have a new batman now (Paddy in Ellgott) - a grand Irish character. My darling, I love you still!

Monday - January 25th - My mass inoculation has begun and so I have been busy all day long jabbing needles into arms! I am still happy - a new Frank Murray has evolved from the pressure of war life. I am gay and lively - apparently never serious! But for many moments by day and night I am serious and love you with all my heart and soul.

Tuesday - January 26th - I have very full days now - pick parades, 80 inoculation duty, lectures to the nursing students, about 4 hours daily, lecture on medicine to Arthur Long who is taking up medicine after the war. Still I am happy. God bless you, Peter almost.

Wednesday - January 27th - I went to hospital today and saw Hurley, Rowell & Spence, both have Amalbic Septentia. I called to see Atkinson and Meeson (2 troops of 80 A/SK). Still very busy with injections and lectures - finished at 1130 last night. I love you more today. My thoughts after chapel tonight turned to you, to Frances, Spring Villa, your dear mother and father and all of you. I never forget any of them. God bless you my child.

Thursday - January 28th - I have a slight reaction this evening after my anti Septentia injection this morning (self-inflicted). Bob Skene hurt his leg yesterday and is in bed (he is a nice lad and 3rd best polo player in the world). My darling, I love you more than ever tonight.

Friday - January 29th - I am going off to our local concert tonight. I have had a quiet day with the afternoon free. My darling, I sang all our favorite songs at the bottom of our garden last night. I love you now and I shall always love you. God bless you.

Saturday - January 30th - My darling, the concert was terrific last night and I laughed my heart out. But alas I have not got a heart because it is all yours and always shall be yours. I am resigned to God's will now to wait and wait and keep alive to meet you again after the war is over. Then our happiness will really begin.

Sunday - January 31st - My darling, another happy Sunday - Mass, Communion, Rosary, Benediction. It seemed to rain all the day long. I am reading some of Sensibility still. My lectures continue unabated and so does my love and my happiness. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - February 1st - A quiet day after a busy morning. I am putting in the steps of the cross looking down on our lovely garden. We can also see the sea from our garden. I am off to some work now (7 P.M.), then some cricket ball practice then Rosary, Lectures & bed!

Tuesday - February 2nd - I had a grand game of football this evening after dinner. The Officers team beat the Sergeants 3-0. I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Lady M^r Ellzall is speaking me here with all sorts of comforts & comfort off in P.M. life. Father Wood is now being sent down to me. He has lost his left leg from some accident and is very depressed. I don't know how he will manage at Mass. I gave him a shirt and a blanket today. His name is Helen in hospital. Now for a lecture to Ethel Long (his mother is an authoress - Margaret Brown ^{your} ^{friend}).

Wednesday - February 3rd - My darling, I had a lovely walk to Southern Cross today. Called in the hospital to see John Brown. He had an operation two days ago and a piece of bone removed from his leg. My darling, I love you still above all else in the world. God bless you.

Thursday - February 4th - My usual busy morning with musication, but a quiet afternoon. The weather is glorious nowadays and the food not so bad. We read of 18 large mail bags arriving in ships from home - I hope they come to Singapore soon. God bless you, my darling.

Friday - February 5th - Another happy day with you, my darling. Another happy dream of you last night. My every thought, my every prayer is for you - I cannot love or adore you any more than I do now. May God bless you for the happiness you have given to me in this Cross Camp. May He bless you and all yours now and always.

Saturday - February 6th - I made a collection for Delling (A.D. Camp) today. In the afternoon I was mending the roof of the Chapel with Corrugated iron. I had a visit from W. J. J. of the 27th. Ambulance. He is in high spirits. No lectures today or tomorrow. God bless you Helen.

Sunday - February 7th - My darling, what a happy day is just ending for me! Oh if only I could see you, my happiness would be complete. I could not ask for anything else for life. Your love is all that I have ever wanted and all that I shall ever want. Confessions, Mass, Communion, Rosary, Benedictus etc. I have been writing more about my diary today and have now reached Lucy in my travels. I still love you - God bless & keep you Ellen. (P.S. I lent my Irish Poems to Father Senter today - he is a Galway man)

Monday - February 8th - My own darling another day and I love you even more. Somehow I have missed you today as much before. That awful acheing at my heart is unbearable at times but I offer it all up to Him. Oh when shall we meet again, my Ellen? God bless you.

Tuesday - February 9th - Big moves are due to start next Monday but thank heavens I am staying behind here with the mountain best. However we are moving our quarters to another part of the area. I was at hospital today and saw Gordon Brown - he is in grand form. I struck up with Buck Murphy, an Irishman in the A.I.F. He is a Dublin man and has been in Australia for 20 years. I intend seeing more of Buck. God bless you, my darling.

Wednesday - February 10th - It seems the doctor, Col Davidson, Fr Ward, and myself are to remain here in these quarters when the big move takes place. My darling, I have loved you today more than I have ever loved you in my life before. I can never love you enough, Ellen.

Thursday - February 11th - It has rained the whole day long, I have had my V.A.B. inoculation this morning. I am ready to go off to chapel and rosary; then comes my lecture to Allet Long. My own darling, you are dearer to me now than ever. You are the most precious thing I have in life to cling to. I will come back to you alive soon.

Friday - February 12th - My own darling, I have just returned from an Australian concert with Fr Ward. It was lovely - especially Schubert's Ave Maria sung by my friend Jack Kibbs. Oh my Ellen how ^{can} I ever love you enough. Fr Senter was with us at the concert. He is in raptures over my Irish poems. God bless you, Ellen.

- Saturday - February 13th - It has been raining most of the day. 20,000 miles back to friends today for a Japanese film. It is faster now to take thank heavens. My darling, I shall love you forever and ever and cannot change. I must get ready for Monday and lecture. God bless you.
- Sunday - February 14th - Oh what a happy day - so much Mass, Communion, Benediction, Rosary - all for you, Celine. Father Benton has lent me 'In Search of Ireland' - you really must know him, darling, and love him as I do (and Suzanne too). He had Woods and kindly puts him. As to me had Grand Singing 'Hail Queen of Heaven', 'To Jesus Heart etc'. The two Australians are good chaps and anxious to see Ireland. God bless you, Celine.
- Monday - February 15th - My darling, I have been thinking of that Christmas card I sent you in 1900. Oh what would have happened to me if you hadn't written to me on 29th December. Celine I shudder to think about it. God bless you for saving my life. I do love you.
- Tuesday - February 16th - I am at home again with you touring Ireland with in my dreams. We must always have 'In Search of Ireland' in our library. Have you bought me any yet, Celine? Oh how I shall always love you, love Ireland, and love my girl.
- Wednesday - February 17th - I have finished my book standing on the Hill of Tara - I feel as if I have parted with a friend. I am lucky in my friends - you and God, what more could a man ask for. I love you to rest with all the love that any man could love with. John Cross, a subject M.O. arrived here today with young Mrs. Cross. God bless you.
- Thursday - February 18th - Had a long chat with young and Mrs. today. My leg inflammation hurts badly - especially after my chain-gang activities today for 3 hours in the Sun. I was at the head of a team of officers pulling two heavy trailers over to our new quarters. I am moving to morrow. I am off to a concert tonight in our Rice Bowl theatre! God bless you.
- Friday - February 19th - My darling, the big room is completed! I have blessed in my hands and feet; my back is buried and blessed - but I am happy. Our new home at Sir H.P. is a barrack room; I sleep next to them and opposite me is King. I do love you, Celine.

Do you remember
 Sunday Morning, December 29, 1940

- Saturday - February 20th - My darling, I have settled well into my new abode. Had two visitors this afternoon Gls. McQuirk and Weston of my W.A.C. They gave me all the news of the others. Most of them have gone up country. Still I feel that I belong much more to the poor old Indians of the Field Ambulance. When will you write to me? God bless you darling.
- Sunday - February 21st - Mass, Communion, Rosary, Benediction - and lots of happiness with thoughts of you, my darling. I wrote my second post card of my P.O.W. life - and I sent it to father, but with love to you, Helen. I hope it reaches him safely. God bless you abunantly.
- Monday - February 22nd - My darling, I am still happy. In my card yesterday I mentioned that I had weekly Mass and Communion here. I know that would mean a lot to you and to father. I have little work to do nowadays - only a few men to look after. Hello you, Helen.
- Tuesday - February 23rd - My darling I am now doing lots of manual work - wood hauling and sawing today. I feel so very fit now that the exercise is beneficial. I am still giving many lectures to Athel - we have become good friends. We have a Japanese parade each evening now at 7 PM.
- Wednesday - February 24th - Another day you and I love you more than yesterday. My tiny surgeon's hands are blistered from wood sawing this afternoon. I am off to a concert here tonight by the Australians. There is roll call first and then a football match. Life is good. God bless you.
- Thursday - February 25th - A transfer day of wood hauling and a march for medical examination by the Japanese. Still I feel happy because I have something to do during all my waking hours. This is the secret of peace of mind and contentment. Hello you Helen. God Bless you.
- Friday - February 26th - Another hectic morning hauling wood. I am terrifically strong again thank God and I am volunteering tomorrow again. I met a major (promoted) today who came out in the 4th AF. Elfrick with me in 1940. My friendship with Athel goes on.
- Saturday - February 27th - Yet another morning wood hauling. I am tired and happy this evening - tomorrow is my lucky day. Confession tonight at 8 P.M. I am now reading "Loque Bernis & Juditha Paris" (Walpole). I do love you so very much to report

Sunday - February 28th - I am getting ready for Mass and Communion. It is 1.30 P.M. Mass is at 7.45 P.M. every Sunday and Wednesday evening - we have a special dispensation from fasting. It will be heavenly having Mass & Communion twice a week. This is to suit the garden and wood cutting parties that now inhabit our area. God bless you, Celia. I shall pray so hard for you at Mass.

Monday - March 1st - I must tell you all about another happy day. It began last night with Mass and Communion and I prayed as never before for you and all at home. I was sewing Mass again. This morning I had lots of wood sawing and have blisters on my hands. In the afternoon I went with Arthur and John to Southern Area. Saw Peter Coope and the lads. By the way Fr. Ronald Knox & Raulo Linn's uncle. We went to see an Australian concert to night in our area. It was good. God bless you.

Tuesday - March 2nd - My darling, my blisters have been painful today and so I have a rest from sawing and digging broodie holes. It has rained heavily all afternoon. Now I am ready for roll call and leaving. I may go to a lecture to night by a chap who was a June Parker.

Wednesday - March 3rd - I went to the Aussie big concert last night with Tony Wright. I met Frank Woods, Knibbs, and Fr. Sexton in the actors quarters. It was a wonderful concert. I was introduced to John Woods back stage (he is the leading lady) after the show. A quiet day. Walked to Southern Area with Albet and met Peter Coope and his lads. I raised a broodie hen all the way. Had Mass and Communion this evening, lecture to Albet. Happy. Love you.

Thursday - March 4th - Had a hectic morning sawing big logs of wood and heaving them up on the flat roof. The afternoon was spent in drawing sketches of the Menous Sisters for Albet and giving him lectures. There is another concert here to night again! I may go later. God bless you.

Friday - March 5th - My darling, the concert was hopeless last night. Nothing much doing to night. Sawing wood and heaving heavenwards all morning. Football match at 5 P.M. it was washed out by a thick mist after 20 minutes play. I do love you so very much to night Celia.

Saturday - March 6th - Today bags of mail have arrived but no letters for me yet! Had morning sawing and hauling wood. When will I see you again to tell you about my love.

Sunday - March 1st : My darling, it is a wet Sunday evening and I am ready to go off to chapel for Mass. I have had another happy day, first wood hauling and then sawing. I am still reading my Rogue Dennis & Judith Paris. I still love you Helen. God bless you.

Monday - March 8th : Another grand day of sawing, reading, lecturing etc. Time passes quickly nowadays. No letter for me yet, but my darling, I do not mind terribly. I only want your love. I am happy with my thoughts and memories of you. God bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - March 9th : Pancake Tuesday - we had pancakes for sweet at times to night! Sawing wood all morning and hauling it on the roof. Oh my darling I love you so very much these days - I am so happy, but there is forever that longing in my heart to see you again.

Wednesday - March 10th : Oh Wednesday and now I am off to Chapel for Mass, Communion and Psalms. There is plenty of fasting and abstinence in this camp in Lent! No word of any letter from you yet, Helen. Went to hospital this morning, saw John Brown, Howell, Fendling, Spencer etc. Met a Major Robinson last night (a Catholic) yet a relation of our Attorney General!

Thursday - March 11th : My darling, I love you even more to night. Fr. Sexton came to say Mass last night and gave us the Psalms. I am now the regular Mass server and I love it. A quiet day, lots of reading Dennis. I am to watch a football match to night. God bless you.

Friday - March 12th : I went to hospital this morning but still no letter for me from home as yet. Met Mr. Toloff and had a long chat with him about old times. A quiet day with lots of reading. I am off to parade Lent. I love you. God bless you.

Saturday - March 13th : A hectic morning sawing wood. I attended a court martial this afternoon - the prisoner was acquitted mostly on my evidence! I refused to swear on a C.G.C. bible! So I took an ordinary oath without a bible. I am now off to Air concert.

Sunday - March 14th : A terrific concert last night - went with Althea & Standaish. Frank John Woods even temper. Met Frank & Fr. Sexton after the show. Quiet day of study in the room with Althea. Football match, Mass & social in Sergeants Mess to night.

Monday - March 15th - Mass and Communion last night. Then came a marvellous concert. An Irish Violinist (Denis Cost, London Philharmonic) was wonderful; a grand ten called King and other good tenors. So day I visited P. Cooper & M. Cooper in S. Genia. Another concert (AIF) to night.

Tuesday - March 16th - Oh my own darling, I do love you so very, very much this day. I can never hope to love you any more than I do now. It all began last night when I prayed harder than usual to God and asked Him to bless you and Frances, my father, Maureen, Margaret, Anna, Philip, Ann - your father and mother, Felix, Teresa, Hugh, Maureen, Josephine, and Joe (Mr.). I then followed wonderful dream of you and Frances. We three were so happy together. I awoke this morning and dashed off to the hospital after breakfast. I rushed up to the officers mess and there saw my name on the list for a letter - in brackets was "your fiancée Helen O'Hara"! And now my darling I have only to wait a week or so until your precious letter is answered by the Japanese. I cannot describe my feelings to you after 13 months as P.O.W. with no news at all. I am so happy.

"Paddy" my batman produced "Shamrock" this evening for me! God bless you my darling.
Wednesday - March 17th - ST. PATRICK'S DAY - I forgot to mention that I had a long chat with Benny at the hospital yesterday - he is there and wanted looking. He remembered your name and congratulated me in the letter. I have had a glorious St. Patrick's Day thank God - from my Shamrock all day long. I had Peter Cooper as my guest for the evening; we went to a football match at 5 P.M.; a wonderful dinner at 6.30; we both had Mass and Communion at 7.30; then came a truly marvellous celebrity concert - Denis Cost, etc., Schubert's and Gounod's Ave Maria. Peter enjoyed his evening tremendously and went off home at 10.30. Love you more today than

Thursday - March 18th - My own darling, you should see my Sunday morning. I am in the sun all day long meaning nothing but pants. I lecture morning sewing. The afternoon in the flat roof. Studying Medicine with Alton. I do love you so much, Helen. God bless you.

Friday - March 19th - My darling, I am just living for your letter to arrive. A quiet day, no excitement. I am now waiting for parade, football match, and Rosary. God bless you Helen.

Saturday - March 20th - My darling I love you. No sign of your letter as yet - may have to wait for a month or 6 weeks for it. Am going to confession to night, the football match and then the Co-optunist concert party. A hard morning's driving. God bless you.

Sunday - March 21st - Went to Southern Area with Sneller and had lunch with Peter Koops. All the folk there were in good fun. Paddy produced a new pair of trousers for me today! I am getting ready for brass mass. No letter has arrived from you yet. God bless you.

Monday - March 22nd - Went to a concert in the Sergeants Mess last night after Mass with Doctor's Young and Gross. It was really good. Went this afternoon to see Fr. Sexton in the Quin's Camp. Have arranged to go to the A.P. concert with him on Wednesday night. Return in Search of Ireland. Football match at 6 P.M. we beat Sergeants 1-2 (we had 10 men). God bless you.

Tuesday - March 23rd - Hurt my knee at football yesterday and so I have been resting and dreaming today. Am doing a lot of medicine nowadays with Athol. I still love you, Eileen.

Wednesday - March 24th - I spent the morning and afternoon relaxing - resting my knee. I have completed an extensive scheme for examination of patients for Athol. Went to Mass and Communion at 7.30. Fr. Sexton said Mass and so off we went together to the A.P. concert with Athol and Sneller. It was a fair show. My Rooney was used for the night. God bless you.

Thursday - March 25th (Annunciation) - The letters are rolling in for all the officers but none for me as yet. Still I am resigned to wait for your letter for a year if necessary. I still love you as much as that. I would give anything to see you again and tell you about my love. Oh my Eileen, how my heart aches at times for you. God bless you.

Friday - March 26th - I am still taking things easy. No show to night and so I spent 2 1/2 hours sitting in the Paddock with Athol talking of the past and our future. God bless you.

Saturday - March 27th - Oh my own darling, it has come at last and it has made me so very very happy. To know that you still love me at all makes me ashamed - ashamed of the pain and suffering I am causing you by my absence. To know that you

Saturday - March 27th (cont'd) : And all at Beechwood and Spring Wells are well has taken a great load of anxiety off my mind; I am so very very happy to know that you have now bought the engagement ring to open liking (I will love it too); I was anxious in case the cheque would not reach you in time; the Rings, the Candlesticks, the Mountain James, and the Porcelain all reached you thank God - the latter will not be procurable after the war. My darling, I do not deserve such a love as yours. I am broken hearted to know that you had to wait so long for news of me.

Sunday - March 28th : Thank God, you know by this time of my safety. I just cannot ever love you enough and yet I love you with all my heart and self and will love you forever. I have had a quiet day and am now ready for Mass and Communion - God bless you.

Monday - March 29th : I have been darning and sewing today; made a pair of shorts by pulling down my old slacks. I have been reading and re-reading your precious letter since it came - it has even been under my pillow at night. Now I may tell you that my only worry all these months has been you my darling and the anxiety and worry I have caused you. You said once that you were the world's worst when it came to worrying. My darling, I am sorry.

Tuesday - March 30th : My own darling, it has been hot and sticky today but I have loved you more than ever before. What a wonderful love we have - it is perfect in every way and I know that God will bless it and our marriage. He will end this war soon and bring us together again. A quiet day and now it has ended. I am off to parade and then football match and boxing.

Wednesday - March 31st : Some sledge-hammer work this morning. My darling if the war has now reached Kewalpundi. A good football match at 5 PM. When we were beat Southon Area. Mass and Communion and oh how I prayed for you, Helen. God bless you.

Thursday - April 1st : It is All Fools Day and so I spent my morning chopping logs of wood with a huge axe - Result: blisters of my hands. Declined in the afternoon and now I am off to be patient at the Palladium (Hospital area) to see Stanley Jears. I have loved you in a very special way today - more and more than ever. God bless you, Helen.

Friday - April 2nd - My darling, I am still reading your letter, loving it more and more, loving you for being so loyal to his worthless career, and loving you for all that you are. Oh how you must have suffered during all these months of waiting for news of me. I went to visit Mr. Nolan today - he played for Galway in League Cup in 1926.

Saturday - April 3rd - Wood hauling this morning in the rain. Had a lovely dream of you last night my darling, and today has been an long dream of you too. I am only waiting for one day and I live for it - our reunion day. Confession to watch the football match for you.

Sunday - April 4th - My darling, another of our days. Mass and Communion to night were specially for you, Helen. Fr. Watson said Mass. He has never been here before though he is the Chaplain here. He is English, sandy haired, left ear huge! Went to a very good concert in the Sergeant's Mess. Saw that song "Sinking Through" and oh how I long to see you my own darling.

Monday - April 5th - A quiet day, digging bonfires in the morning, patching my pants in the afternoon, and now football, netball, football match and Rosary. God bless you.

Tuesday - April 6th - My darling, I read and read your letter daily and I love you and it more and more every day. I did sewing and sewing this morning! I visited Fr. Sexton in the afternoon in the A.F. lines, he is in grand form. He returned my Irish poems. God bless you.

Wednesday - April 7th - I have heard awful news - that Mass and Communion may have to be discontinued after Easter. I am praying that this may not happen. These are of course my translations as a POW. Lots of sewing this morning. Now I am off to Mass and Communion. I love you more dearly as the days go by and I know that I will always love only you.

Thursday - April 8th - Wood chopping this morning. Jack Kibbles came this afternoon and told me that Mr. Nolan and Lonlon are coming with us to see Anstruther & the Sec. to night. God bless you.

Friday - April 9th - My darling, I had a wonderful morning felling large coconut trees and hauling them into camp. I feel as strong as a horse these days thank God. I love you so much now Helen that my heart feels as if it will burst with love. God bless you.

Saturday - April 10th - Went to the AIF concert last night and had a better time with Althel, Pete, and Dittler. Wood hauling this morning and hockey at 5 P.M. against the Sergeants we lost 4-1! My darling, do you know how very much I love you and how I long for our big day. No man could love a woman more than I love you, Celia. God bless you.

Sunday - April 11th - Another concert last night by 18 Div concert party - not so good. A Dutch Officer hypnotized a man and made him rigid as a board! A French cabaret singer (Champion) was good. Went to Southern Area this morning with Dittler; met Pete Loope. I love you, Celia.

Monday - April 12th - Wonderful news today of the arrival of 40 bags of mail from home. Oh my darling, I am selfish enough to want another letter from you. I have been reading Famous Trials (Birkhead) and doing diagrams for Althel. Two big football matches to night and a concert. Mass and Communion last night - I was so happy. Met Fr. Watson and had a long talk with him. God bless you.

Tuesday - April 13th - My darling, 7000 men are leaving here soon and going up country. I am to remain behind. Went to hospital this afternoon. met Fr. O'Mahoney and Capt. Williams, Sewell, and Inaque. Have now got a Grip Anatomy for Althel. I love you Celia.

Wednesday - April 14th - A quiet day with 105 vaccinations. Thank heaven for some medical work! Mass and Communion to night were specially for you my darling, and concert to night also by the Australians. We had Jimmy Boy on Sunday night by an Irish Annie God bless you.

Thursday - April 15th - Another quiet day with lots of day dreams of you and home. I am reading Old Brandy but not interested in it. You know darling, that I shall never love anyone but you - I will love you forever and ever. More work this evening (vaccination). God bless you.

Friday - April 16th - Nothing much today save reading another novel to pass the time. My usual vaccinations and read (or two) at your beautiful letter. I still say Good morning and Good night to you, my darling. I am still loving you more and more. God bless you.

Saturday - April 17th - Wood hauling this morning and then - a marvellous surprise my darling. Another letter from you! Dated August 14th. My own darling, if you could know the joy.

Confession tonight.

that knells up in my heart when I read your letters. It makes life bearable in this P.O.W. Some day, please God, I shall be able to thank you for all these little things that you have done for me. Thank God you are alright and everyone at home is fit. I imagine old Philip an engineer and working. I imagine Frances married, I imagine you at Beachwood! Oh my Helen you are a very wonderful person to say all these prayers for me - I hope I shall be good enough for you (I doubt it). God Bless you.

Sunday - April 18th My darling, I have been up to the hospital this afternoon and found that there is another letter on its way from you. Oh my Helen, I feel ashamed that I am not doing my bit in writing, but we have only been allowed to write two postcards in the post year. I am loving you more and more this day. I shall always love you. God bless you.

Monday - April 19th Do you know that I read both your letters every day? They loving me so much means to you, darling. It must have been awful writing to someone you didn't know that had happened to him. God bless your child for such wonderful letters. Nothing today. God Bless you.

Tuesday - April 20th Helen I have aint you ashamed of yourself making me love you so much. Your third letter (4th August) came this morning and made me happier than I thought I could ever be as a prisoner. How can I thank you and our dear Lord except by loving you both more and praying harder to Him for us and our love. I am so very glad you have met Jimmy and Maun - they are grand people. Oh if only you knew that I am safe and well. Yes my darling, our love will last forever and ever. You are so loyal and true to me. God bless you.

Wednesday - April 21st My darling, I had a glorious swim this morning with the salt water handy. My swimming is stronger than ever before, thank God. Went to hospital in the afternoon and found that there's letter is coming soon. Last night I had a pleasant evening in the moonlight on the roof. I read your letter all over again, looked at your snaps and loved you more than ever. God Bless you.

Thursday - April 22nd No brass last night owing to rain. Another swim in the sea today with Jimmy James and our dog Jack. The moonlight nights are glorious on our roof here. I can sit and dream of my beloved far off in Erin Isle. I love you more today. God Bless you.

Friday - April 23rd - Good Friday - Had a special station for you darling at midnight. There is a sermon and station tonight. Had a service down in the sea at 2.30 am with Pete Manning. If you should meet your Frank glad to see a pair of shorts (only) walking down to bath (midnight). Mr. Wolff came to say goodbye - gave him scraps of work and my address. He's going up country. God bless.

Saturday - April 24th - My darling, I had a wonderful surprise today - your halcyon letter arrived (June '42) and now I love you to distraction. No letter coming from him. I have had all your letters to date. Thanks God. Went to hospital this morning - met Doyle & Fr. Whelan. Had lunch in S. Area with Peter Coops, met Mike Cooper. God bless you my darling. Love you.

Sunday - April 25th - Easter Sunday - Hope my Easter has not been exciting - had a bad cold, fever, and headache all day, no swimming. Now I am going off to Mass and Holy Communion. Thank God some altar breads & wine have come for Singapore. God bless you, Celen.

Monday - April 26th - My darling, I had a hectic morning with a trailer party - sawing kiln for 3rd Corps Officers (Colonels) - one jumped over side out. Peter Coops came in the afternoon & was in. Pick pie for Dennis! A terrific Aussie Musical Comedy after dinner with Althea, Freddie, Pete, God bless.

Tuesday - April 27th - I am now a divisional wood sawer for the week only. I have been sawing all morning and afternoon and feel very fit, thank God. Oh my Celen how I long to see you again and hear the words of love that mean so much to me. God bless you, Celen.

Wednesday - April 28th - Another tough morning and afternoon sawing at the wood camp with Althea, Trunch, Lawle, and Fred. No work to-morrow - it is Dennis Keenan's birthday. Mass and Holy Communion all for you this evening, Celen. God bless you.

Thursday - April 29th - Johnny Law and Terry Wright are going up country to night, only 6000 men left in hospital and they will have left soon. No matter what happens, I love you, Celen.

Friday - April 30th - A trailer job - a ton of rice this morning from B.S.D. - I loved it. I am now reading John Buchanan's 'The Heart of the Morning'. 3,000 more troops leaving next week, only 3,000 left. I still love you, your Betty, child (for loving me). God bless you.

Saturday - May 1st - Wood stacking and hauling in the morning - thank God for something to do. I am not on the new party going up - counting thank heaven. Peter Coops came over this afternoon - he is in a dilemma about going or staying. My darling, I shall love you always.

Sunday - May 2nd - I now sleep on the roof at night - it's so very cold. Paddy is very worried about me and says I'm catching cold or rheumatism. I have been reading all day. Now I am off to Mass & Holy Communion - thank God for the. God bless you Celia.

Monday - May 3rd - A hectic afternoon with a trader party at the jail - Rawls Knox, French and I had grand fun. Still reading a lot. Have heard that Fr. O'Mahoney is coming to live here. My darling I still love you with all my heart. God bless you.

Tuesday - May 4th - Wood piling in the morning - oh it was hot. I have been reading Fr. Whelan the Bell Falls (Ernest Hemmingway). Big mousers are still in the air and swagons is unsettled at present. I still love you and you are ever in my thoughts. God bless you Celia.

Wednesday - May 5th - Fr. O'Mahoney and Fr. Whelan came to see me this morning. The former is coming here as Chaplain to the Gove. Celia, I wish you could visit him. He is young and tall and a good friend. Traders fatigue, hockey match. Medicals beat Officers 1-0. I played well at night back! John Cross (Queen) was in great form. How you. God bless you.

Thursday - May 6th - My darling, I have been lazy today and done little work. I may go out with the wood cutters tomorrow. There are no concerts nowadays and life must be dull; but I have your love and our dear Lord to keep me happy at all times. God bless you.

Friday - May 7th - A terrific day out putting down trees three miles away. The work is very hard but I love it. We had a hefty lunch of vegetables and rice. If only you could see me on a lumber pile! I love you more and more my darling. God bless you.

Saturday - May 8th (Charlie's Birthday) - Another tough day in the Ulu cutting trees. The Japanese Gove's always give us cigarettes - they seem a decent lot. I have had two wonderful dreams of you, my darling during the past week and now I love you as never before. God bless you.

Sunday - May 9th My darling, Athel and all the lads are going up. Leaving this week and alas I am not going. I went to the D.D.M.S. this afternoon but he could not help because two other doctors had been already nominated. I am furious about it all because I want to be with my pals. I have prayed to the Holy Ghost for guidance. Mass and Communion at 8.15 am. I received Fr. O'Mahoney's Mass. God Bless you.

Monday - May 10th My wonderful day and over I am doing medicine again with 12 Drs. with. I have tried again to go with the lads but no success yet. Went to hospital today and saw John Brown. He is still in bed since early December. J. Peter Cooper is going up country too. My darling, How you. God Bless you.

Tuesday - May 11th My darling, I have been detailed to go to Japan with 900 troops very soon. I shall tell you all about it tomorrow. I place my trust in the Sacred Heart. God Bless you.

Wednesday - May 12th My darling, I have details of our trip. Fr. O'Mahoney is coming with us and so is my Paddy also Lord de Ramsey! No date given yet. All my pals go off tomorrow night. We have all had a hectic day ending with checks for stumps and songs from the Pals. God Bless you.

Thursday - May 13th Everyone is very excited about the move. Athel is not going tonight after all his move has been postponed. Had a long chat with Fr. O'Mahoney today. I am the S.M.O. of the party. The O.C. is Lt Col. Byrne (a Catholic) his adjutant is also a Catholic. God Bless you.

Friday - May 14th Went to hospital this morning to arrange about medical equipment for the journey. Met Fr. Whelan and Paddy Doyle. Mass and Communion this morning also on Wednesday). Thank God Fr. O'Mahoney is travelling. I still have time to love you, darling!

Saturday - May 15th Had sudden orders this morning for Changi. I started saying goodbye to Athel and my friends. Left Changi at 1 p.m.; went to Singapore in a crowded lorry; kit searched; embarked at 7 p.m.; 382 of us in this hold! The heat is awful, but I love you.

Sunday - May 16th Set sail at dawn after a shocking night. I am next to Fr. O'Mahoney and am feeding him up. Food is not too bad - rice & vegetables etc. too many cooks so yet - thank God. We have 2 weeks more of this hell. My darling, you are nearer to my heart this night than ever before. God Bless you.

Athelstan

Monday - May 17th - My darling, another day ended, but thank God a letter in it is now raining! We are in forway with 3 other vessels heading for Saigon. We are to remain there for a short time and then move off again. God bless you.

Tuesday - May 18th - We sighted the Conamere Islands this evening - they looked lovely in the sunset. We are 150 miles south of Saigon and are due at Formosa this day week. We live like rats in this hold, but we manage to keep alive. God bless you.

Wednesday - May 19th - We are now anchored outside Saigon at the mouth of the river Mekong. There is beautiful country all around, but with it is steamy. Alas I have a case of dysentery in my back. The food is still nice and stew & tea. God bless you.

Thursday - May 20th - We are still anchored here at Saigon and it is hot! And I am sticky and dirty in this filthy freighter. I forgot to tell you of my hectic send off for Changi. Athel, Rawle, Tony, Freddie etc all pushed me on a trailer to my sending off place. You would have laughed to see me perched at the wheel on top of my baggage like a king. It was heart breaking to have such friends - and now I'm in there. I love you.

Friday - May 21st - My darling, still here waiting for our forway at the breaking. ^{wash & shave at 3.30 am on deck!} Last night we had a battle royal with flying cockroaches (huge things) and rats in the darkness. I love you more than ever. God bless you.

Saturday - May 22nd - A hot sweltering day spent here. We may move to morrow. I spent the afternoon sitting around the deck reading Shakespeare (Merchant of Venice) - clad in battling shorts alone! Had a long talk with Purdie adjutant (Carrick - a Catholic). It is 7 pm and I am in the "black hole" writing to you my darling. Work hard with the rest all morning. God bless you Ellen.

Sunday - May 23rd - We lifted anchor this evening and off we went with 20 ships steaming towards the land of the rising sun! I am going farther and farther away from you my darling but I am coming nearer and nearer to your heart. Oh Ellen what does anything matter, we love each other as two people have never loved before and we love God. We place our trust in Him. God bless you.

- Monday - May 24th - We are now allowed 20 minutes on deck each day. The decks are red hot (steel) and are a few inches above our heads in this hold. I have hunted "Merchant of Venice" and I love you more and more. This awful life here is nothing to me because you are everything to me. God bless you.
- Tuesday - May 25th - Awful experience last night of a rat crawling across my legs - the place was in an uproar. Still working hard, kept below, bottles to eat. Started "As You Like It". Could not continue with "I dwell in happy places" (Henry Deane). Your love keeps me alive. God bless you.
- Wednesday - May 26th - Still at sea heading for Formosa. Still very hot though we have an occasional shower of rain which is very welcome from getting faint of Formosa. We have fished every morning after 10 o'clock. I am winning too. Fr O'Hakony is fishing all the time.
- Thursday - May 27th - I have grand fun with the American sailors - they are terribly friendly but not cheeky. I am popular with them. We had more time on deck in the afternoon - I had two salt water bottles from the hose. We love you still darling. God bless you.
- Friday - May 28th - My darling, I am still on the China Sea and not really enjoying the cruise! However, it can't be a lot worse. We are due at Formosa tomorrow morning. I have no serious fear of stomach trouble and of course there will be no treatment here. God bless you.
- Saturday - May 29th - We docked in Takao this morning (Formosa) and we are supposed to be here for a couple of days at least. We have not been allowed on deck at all today - we had a Turkish Bath free! And now it is evening and I love you more now.
- Sunday - May 30th - A very hot day spent in Takao harbour. It is a lovely spot and very beautiful. We had 3 bananas each today brought by ourselves! I was interviewed by Japanese medical officers who have promised us some drugs, they were very nice about it. I love you.
- Monday - May 31st - Another day at Takao - we left harbour in the morning but that was a false start and we were back again in the afternoon. Some drugs arrived. Cooks today. God bless you.
- Tuesday - June 1st - What a lovely harbour this is with all its craft - quays, steamers, ferry boats etc. It's just like Port Stewart. My darling, we may say to ourselves - cheers! I still love you. God bless you, Helen

- Wednesday - June 2nd We set sail from Takao early this morning - and it was a
 glorious morning with a fresh following breeze. We are due at Kobe in 6 days time.
 Thank heaven that will end my travels for awhile. I love you more today. God bless you.
- Thursday - June 3rd ^{Ascension} We are steaming up the East China Sea northward bound. It is becoming
 much colder thank God - what a relief after so many years of the tropical heat. I have had glorious
 thoughts of you today and our future together. I could never have loved or married anyone but you.
- Friday - June 4th It has rained all day and has been bitterly cold. I have stuck to
 my shorts only while everyone else is wrapped up in woollen. I have great fun with the American
 sailors - including a Swede, a Latvian, Russian etc. You have still got all my love. God bless you.
- Saturday - June 5th ^{3 miles at sea} My darling, you must have been praying hard for me today - a torpedo
 whizzed past our bow at 10 am this morning. Guns were firing and depth charges exploded
 while we waited in the hold for the worst. I do hope the submarine escaped. Thank God we did.
 A miserable, wet, cold day spent below decks, but much preferable to the heat. God bless you.
- Sunday - June 6th Another scare this morning - our seven went and the guns opened
 up on a so-called submarine but it turned out to be driftwood. We sighted South West
 Japan in the afternoon. Now we are sailing among the islands northwards bound. God bless you.
- Monday - June 7th Arrived at Anzai this morning, medically examined, disembarked in
 the afternoon in Japanese Paul. Lined up and loaded & mounted, by ferry across the Inland Sea; train
 at 9.30 after awful struggle with kit. Once mounted - we had 2nd class carriages packed but no standing.
- Tuesday - June 8th An awful night, no sleep, sitting bolt upright, sore neck. A day of marvels. We
 travelled through the interior Kyoto and Kobe (Annie left us), thence towards East coast, then back
 across Japan to west coast up hill down dale through beautiful country. I wired papa from class next.
- Wednesday - June 9th Another beautiful night in the train - no sleep. We are now speeding along
 the West coast due north. It is lovely country. Alas, you would have it. Thousands of tunnels en route.
 The simple peasants are grand people. I have seen hundreds of lovely cows today. God bless you darling.

Thursday - June 10th - Another weary day in the train and in the most wretched part of the island. Spent many hours in a school to reach which we had to parade through the town with crowds on either side of us laughing. At 5.30 pm we embarked on the ferry which brought us to the western island in 4 hours. ^{Hakodate} Marched for one hour and reach camp at midnight. At last thank God the end.

Friday - June 11th - A day spent with the sick but we at 5.30 am P.M., then roll call, spent the night on the floor. The horrors I have seen among the British troops (RAF) have cannot be described. Plenty of human skeletons. I still love you my Ellen God bless you.

Saturday - June 12th - A terrific day's work - 5.30 am till 9 P.M. - not a sit down all day but thank God I am doing something for these poor old chaps. Food is good (one course); potatoes, rice, vegetables, and fish (steak); lovely scenery. We are due to leave for another camp soon.

Sunday - June 13th - Oh my darling now I do love you and need your love so very much today. Hakodate is a lovely place but this small compound is not so nice. How I wish I could do something with the many dying men here. God bless you for loving me.

Monday - June 14th - Horrible earth tremors by day and by night. A large volcano a few miles away across the bay. I had such a wonderful dream of you darling last night. I do love you enough, Ellen. A hot bath today; one man died of T.B.; very busy but I love you.

Tuesday - June 15th - Oh my darling, this awful place hasn't been out - so many sick, so many dying. I found one bath die among them (Regan), gave him some advice, wrote him out lots of prayers and supplications. My rosary was also in demand. We move up country to warmer. God bless you.

Wednesday - June 16th - Up at 4.30 am - parade - marched a mile through ~~Hakodate~~ to station. Lovely journey of 2 hours along coast around large volcano (Kamatake?). Arrived at new camp ^{Yakimo} had to sit in field all day while carpenters converted the big stable into quarters! God bless you.

Thursday - June 17th - My darling I was awakened this morning by the Luchoo and the Lark. Lovely mountainous and wooded land around. Food is good - Camp is small. Have joined Fr. O'Mahony's Grand again thank God. Many sick today - one Prussian. I love you, Ellen tonight.

Friday - June 18th - Oh my darling, what a day from 5 am till 9 P.M.; then I fell upon my bed as the rain poured down through the holes in the roof and walls of this stable. The cold is intense and we have no warm clothing. Still I offer it all up to Him. God bless you.

Saturday - June 19th - Rained hard the whole day long. Our stable is now a quagmire. Was inspected by high Japanese officials who said it was not even fit P.O.W.s! No work for men meant all work for me. Even I still have time to love and adore you more than ever.

Sunday - June 20th - Cold, wet and miserable. Still working hard. Two Pneumonias being treated in the stable; no medicine; Japanese refused to send them to hospital - they must just die here. They gave two cups milk today to 5 patients! Even my darling I may be writing a post card to you soon.

Monday - June 21st - Oh my darling, another cold wet day. Still many sick in camp. Had a long chat with Japanese commander about food and Vietnamese. He was an analytical chemist. I love you a million times more than when I saw you last. God bless you.

Tuesday - June 22nd - The sun came out for a bit today and warmed us up a bit, but very cold this evening. Milk mixer for the sick today - beautiful thick fresh stuff. Fr. D. Mahoney is trying hard to have Mass for profane Christians. My darling you are ever in my thought and heart. God bless you.

Wednesday - June 23rd - Inspected today by Japanese colonel. Two of the men are seriously ill and I have nothing to treat them with. Today we are having bath-son build, also look-bouse. I am still being held in the land of the rising sun, but my love for you is always warm. God bless you.

Thursday - June 24th (Corpus Christi) - My darling, I am weary to death - I now get up at 4.45 am and finish about 9 P.M. Fr. D. Mahoney is saying Mass this evening thank God. I must steal the patient's time and go. I have a patient very ill with septicaemia. God bless you.

Friday - June 25th - It was wonderful having Mass again but no Communion available owing to mist. We may have Mass and Communion on Sunday. Another terrific day. God bless you.

Saturday - June 26th - Another mad rush of work with no time to eat or sleep. I still have time to think of you and pray for you. Your exams must be over soon and the holidays.

MASS + Communion Thank God I prayed so hard for you, Lulu.

Sunday - June 27th - Had a little time today but not much. It became colder instead of warmer. Oh when does summer come! I have three dysentery cases but they are doing well thank God. My darling, when will this war be over? I love you so much that I cannot wait for our big day.

Monday - June 28th - Work, work, and more work for seven till night. The train just goes like a flash. I cannot battle up with myself. A Japanese nursing orderly is of great help to me in this place. Provides all kinds of drugs & dressings, milk & food for patients etc. God bless you.

Tuesday - June 29th - My darling, this has been my worst day yet. Pneumonia and dysentery's around now. Fever came up today. I have cold meals always and also drank tea. Millions of flies! No access to open trench latrines. Still I do my best - to love you more. God bless you.

Wednesday - June 30th - Bed at 11 P.M. last night - up at 4.30 am! Oh what a life! Most of the work is clerical and medical and sanitary. Had a walk to the local dairy today with medical orderly to fetch milk. The dumpwads were ogling at me. Jealous?

Thursday - July 1st - My hospital is well established now and all my patients doing well thank God. I have organized things at last and am happy in my work. I do not forget you ever Lulu. I'll come to back with you again. God bless you.

Friday - July 2nd - Another daily visit to the dairy and there met a very pretty, shy office girl. My guide made her blush! It is grand to get out in the fields among the potatoes, clover, and lovely cattle and horses. The weather is glorious here by the sea and yet in the evening. God bless you.

Saturday - July 3rd - A hectic day which ended with a case of acute Appendicitis (Anna Maria). The Japanese wanted an operation immediately but I refused. I had to make a complete report on the Army medical organization for the Japanese officer (Mr. Kudo). God bless you.

Sunday - July 4th - Fr. O'Mahoney has had stomach trouble and so we had no Mass today. I said the Rosary, Litany of Sacred Heart, and Act of Contrition for the Ann. I had my sacrifice and statues on the table. I did not forget you a moment today. Daddy washed all my clothes. God bless him. Appendicitis gone better. God bless you.

Monday - July 5th - A quiet day thank heaven. A diphtheria case today. Japanese produced
 in my short time. I think it will be alright. Little woman are you not weary of waiting
 for me. Why don't you run off and among some handsome young men. Oh how I do love you. God bless

Tuesday - July 6th - Things are settling down at last and my work is organized - hospital,
 morning and evening sects etc. All are doing well thank God. I had some cigarettes as presents
 and gave them to Paddy. Now get to bed at 8 P.M. and get up at 5 A.M. God bless you

Wednesday - July 7th - You should see my Sheny bowl pipe given me by Mr. Elkin. The Japanese
 medical orderly is leaving tomorrow and I am sorry. He has been more than good to us all here. He
 has taken my autograph, my address & my wife's name (Aileen Murray!). I am in with diet by order.

Thursday - July 8th - How do you like your new name, my darling? Perfect upon me now
 enjoying Kellough or Protestant and preparing for Lang's Serj again. I am still picturing you
 walking up the path to Beechwood and talking to Annie and father. I still don't deserve you. ^{God bless you}

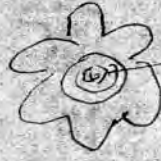
Friday - July 9th - We saw Jesha girls dancing in the camp (Korean) across the road this
 evening. They sang weird songs too. Their hair and dress were lovely. A very busy day. My
 darling I am not so happy in this place. There is no Allah, no Kame etc. I still love you. God bless you

Saturday - July 10th - A party last night with the Japanese. It was quaint sitting at the
 very low table in sock shoes sipping wine and smoking while a Japanese visitor expounded
 his theories on the war (in Japanese). A hectic day, another Diphtheria case. God bless you darling

Sunday - July 11th - my darling, we had Mass but no Communion this evening. Oh
 what a relief and consolation after a very trying week. I have had another hard day
 but managed a wash! No soap to be bought anywhere - no money anywhere. God bless you.

Monday - July 12th - The glorious 12th was a sad day - the Japanese now decide which
 men go out to work, not so. Sick men are now being driven out to work and they
 for fearfully walk. Bed at 10 P.M. last night and up at 4.30 A.M. I still love you ^{God bless you}

Tuesday - July 13th - Rained all day. No work for men and little for me. I love you more
 and more with each day we are parted. We shall not be parted much longer. God bless you



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C.O. wing bed on terminal

- Wednesday - July 14th - Things are much easier nowadays for me but it is easier leaving you more and more as the days go by. I am longing for the day of my release from here. Oh how I shall hurry home to you and never leave you again. God bless you my darling.
- Thursday - July 15th - An inspection by the Colonel today. He was very pleased with the hospital. Had a party with the officers to night in the office. Much Japanese rice wine was consumed and I sang for the company. I did enjoy myself. God bless you Helen.
- Friday - July 16th - A quiet day reading "Volcano" by Cecil Roberts. Cigarettes, Soap, paper, and flour arrived today. You should see the lovely mosaic which adorns the wall of our bathhouse at nose level! Sorry to mention it. My darling Have you with all my heart & soul.
- Saturday - July 17th - A glorious day of sunshine and I am feeling happier and more contented than ever before. Tomorrow is a holiday and we have been promised a swim in the sea. Many more things today. Vit. B, Sulphuramide, Digitals. God bless you, Helen.
- Sunday - July 18th - A wonderful yasmie day included Brass, Communion, a swim in the sea, a concert, Amakuni, and a glorious sunset. I did not forget you for a moment and wanted you to share it with me so very much. Oh my darling I do love you. God bless you.
- Monday - July 19th - Another glorious day of sunshine. Am reading Ann Veckers by Sinclair Lewis (American) - a grand story. We have a wireless set now and get local music. Kang bear captured a few yards from here during the week. Hot bath to night. God bless you.
- Tuesday - July 20th - Some digging and picking this morning. A busy day - brought 130 of things for me. Oh my darling how I do love you to night. I thought of you all the day long. I sang "Mountains of Income & Rice of Trade" at the men's concert on Friday! God bless you.
- Wednesday - July 21st - We brought lots of things today for the hospital. Had a party last night. Japanese medical orderly gave me pictures of the Aimer of this island (HONKIDO). God bless you.
- Thursday - July 22nd - A quiet day with some rain. Then had a day. I feel in my heart that you will see me soon again. Don't quite know why. I love you more and more. God bless you.

Friday - July 23rd - It has rained all the day and so the men had a Yarnie today and lay in bed the day long. I had little to do. Fr. O. Keahung's face (impetigo) improves daily. May love for you improve too. Oh my darling, I shall never leave you for a moment again. God bless you.

Saturday - July 24th - Another day nearer to you my darling, and to freedom. Had a fairly busy day. I do hope you are having a grand holiday at Killough or Pontstewart. Wont it be wonderful when we have our first holiday together when I get back home. I love you more each day. God bless you.

Sunday - July 25th - A cold day with a hot bath this evening. Another tooth extraction yesterday. I must start a dental practice when I go back home! No mass to day unfortunately as Fr. O. Keahung is not very fit yet. I have been promised "The Road to Nowhere" and "Fr. Brown Stories". God bless you.

Monday - July 26th - My darling, I have been stammering all day to cure my Agutters. My Gallant Paddy won a leaf today for hard work and gave it to me! He would not take no for an answer. I always give him two packets of cigarettes weekly. I am paying for his dentures repairs.

Tuesday - July 27th - A quiet day. I did some washing today. Went to church. The weather again the hills look grand. I was invited out to lunch at the dress of the other company. Sabad is the first to be invited from this side. How you Celen. God bless you.

Wednesday - July 28th - A restful day - even managed a sunbath in the afternoon in the garden. Your Snap and medal and lock of hair were by my side. Oh my Celen you are nearer and dearer to me than you have ever been before. I can never love you enough. God bless you.

Thursday - July 29th - Celen, my darling, I had a wonderful dream about you last night. You met me at a station, I opened my arms and you ran into them. Oh we were so happy together on our way home. I told you my tale of the war and torpedoes etc. How can I love you more. ^{God} bless you.

Friday - July 30th - Nothing exciting today except the rain - and it came down in torrents. Paddy is sick today and I am taking good care of him. I love you still. God bless you.

Saturday - July 31st - My darling, I am on top of the world for today (pro). The sun is shining and the summer is here (?). I might be only dreaming you today. God bless you. Celen

Yasume

Sunday - August 1st - Confession, Mass, and Communion this morning thank God - and it has made me so very happy. A glorious day of Sunshine. A Service in the afternoon. An Amuseur and I (Lander) went out to a launch about a mile from the shore - it was grand. We were acclaimed by the Japanese as marvellous swimmers. We were in Volcano Bay with lots of Volcanoes studied and the wonderful sweep of coast. A concert in the evening - I sang "holly holly". How you. God bless you.

Monday - August 2nd - Another day of Sunshine. Bought 150 stuaps for men today. I feel much better than a days and I pray God grant us health to endure it to the end and bring us home safely to you. I love you. I have never loved you as I love you today, my darling. You pray too hard for me - I am not worth it. God bless you.

Tuesday - August 3rd - Sunshine all the day and the road to howland finished. Still reading In Brown Murder Train (Paddy). A wonderful bay scene in the field beside us. 50 men and women have been stacking hay all day. Their broad straw hats give them a Mexican touch. The lofty mountains in the background make it a perfect setting for a picture. I'll be home to you soon now, my love. God bless you.

Wednesday - August 4th - Had a wonderful swim last evening in the sea with skin patients. I can manage it every day, I hope. There was Volcano Bay bathed in Sunshine; Volcanoes all around - 50 miles away; quaint fishing boats and people on the beach. We had cakes and bread today! - God bless you.

Thursday - August 5th - Summer really has come and we are basking in it. Not much work now and nobody seriously ill thank God. Oh my love how much longer are we to be separated? I am praying hard that it won't be long. I am loving you more the more we are parted. God bless you.

Friday - August 6th - Another day swears to you my darling and to freedom. We have a wireless session each evening at the office. We all sit around in boxes and smoke our Corn Cob pipes and talk of old times. I was presented to a General (New Japan) today. God bless you.

Saturday - August 7th - My darling, the sea still shines and I am fairly happy and fit. You are ever in my thoughts and you'll always be in my heart. God bless you. I love you. I love you. I love you.

Sunday - August 8th - No Mass or Communion today. Men came back too late. A day of Sunshine. My darling, there was an air raid alarm last night! I love you a little bit more today. God bless you.

Monday August 9th - A nightmare of a day which included disinfecting of all barracks rooms and inoculating 100 men against Diphtheria. I still have time to love and adore you with my heart and soul. One of my patients today is a Onafura!

Tuesday August 10th - My darling, another busy day. We were presented with a fan each today! Medical Orderly gave me a wonderful Japanese pipe - "Kofu Lung"! It will be a treasured possession. I have so many things to tell you about my Eastern adventures.

Wednesday August 11th - An uneventful day as a POW. The men had a half day coming to rain. I had a swim in the sea with the skin cases. I thought of you all the time and wondered if you were having a grand holiday by the sea. Many Japanese children came to watch me swim.

Thursday August 12th - Oh my darling, how I have missed you and loved you today. The ache and the longing that is ever at my heart to see you just once again or even to have a letter from you, Celine. We bought many things today from the village. How you, God bless you.

Friday August 13th - Nothing exciting today. I had a peaceful afternoon with you in the back garden. I read your letter through for the thousandth time. You are a silly girl to love me so much and to wait for me. I shall never be worthy of your love. God bless you.

Saturday August 14th - Another day of Sunshine which ended with a Rain in the Pacific. I have done some washing today and darning too - in fact I gave darning lessons! I shall be only too willing to give you lessons too. How you a little more to dry again. God bless you.

Sunday August 15th (The Assumption) - Mass and Holy Communion; Blue skies (Yasumi Blue) a hot sun, a gentle breeze, a swim, you in my heart, fish and bread for supper - made this a perfect day. Today I loved you with my all. You had my Mass and Communion; you and God were my day. Lander and I swam out to our white launch - a mile out. The Japanese were awaged. God bless you.

Monday August 16th - My darling, back to work again but I still love you with all my heart and soul and being. Your School results should be out now and I am praying that you have your usual 100% pass. It is hard to pray in a P.O.W. camp - never a moment to miss self. God bless you Celine.

Tuesday - August 17th - My darling, another day nearer to you. I had a marvellous dream about you on Saturday night. You are in my thoughts by day and in my dreams by night. We had a weight throwing contest with the Japanese today and I beat them all - and I a skeleton of my former self. I am still the same weight but I lay all my triumphs at your feet - my running and my weight throwing. God bless you Cileen.

Wednesday - August 18th - A happy day with you my darling. I domed several pairs of socks, sent you by my side in our quiet little garden overlooking the hayfield. Oh my Cileen how I longed for you to day with all my heart. Cook and biscuits today! More work than usual. I did a post mountain on a pig for the Camp Commandant. Practised putting the shot. I love you much more today, darling.

Thursday - August 19th - Another long day with a brief rest in my garden of Allot! I had a blitz on the hospital today and cleaned it up. Wonderful news today. I shall be sending you a postcard to tomorrow and pray God it reaches you safely. How can I ever love you enough Cileen. God bless you darling.

Friday - August 20th - I sent off your post card today (180 words!) - mine was a waste piece of economy. May God speed it to you my darling at the other end of the earth. More biscuits today. The hospital is now well organized and very neat. I attend all meals and make all issues, personally. God bless you.

Saturday - August 21st - Glimmer news about Europe in Russian Times. Sicily nearly finished; Prussolini kicked out, Russians advancing, Americans doing well in Pacific and China. All soon be home to you darling. What it be wonderful when peace comes again and we are together. I am living for that day to come. God bless you.

Sunday - August 22nd - No news today as the men are all out working. We only have it on alternate Sundays nowadays, but you are ever in my heart and prayers. I am starving today for my diarrhoea. Dysentery is appearing in the camp. I am in love with you still. God bless you.

Monday - August 23rd - My darling, we are still in our stable, still sleeping on the ground, still no tables or chairs. Food has improved and we have new potatoes for my mess. Food has a big say in a POW camp! My patients are doing well - have 32 now. My love is growing daily too. God bless you.

Tuesday - August 24th - I now take out the food to the patients from a bucket and they get more than the others and myself. Sunshine all the day. Cileen, darling you are dearer to me now than ever. God bless you.

Wednesday - August 25th - I have glorious afternoons in the Sun nowadays. I have the garden and the scenery all to myself and I never miss a moment. I have stopped smoking my pipe now and feel much better for it. God bless you, Ellen.

Thursday - August 26th - A quiet day in the Sun reading and dreaming of you my darling. How I hope and pray that my cards reach you soon. I do not want you to worry about me. I want you to be happy always whether I am with you or not. I have been dreaming of a long holiday or honeymoon for us both at Bundoran when I reach home again. It would be wonderful dating. God bless you.

Friday - August 27th - Another day in the Sun - I am quite tanned now. Bread today! Two patients very ill; no treatment for them. My darling, your poor holidays will soon be ending - maybe you start work on Wednesday next. Maybe, God willing, will spend the next one together. God bless you.

Saturday - August 28th - My darling, I am in better health and spirits now than ever before as a P.O.W. Thank God. The food is very much better nowadays. I am still sunbathing and day dreaming of you and our future together. We shall be the happiest couple the world has ever known. God bless you.

Sunday - August 29th - My darling, Mass and Communion this morning - all for you and for peace. A small boat in the afternoon, the waves were terrific, but I loved it all the more. ^{Yasume Dan} ~~It~~ reminded him of Ballybennin and I thought it like Bundoran. Oh that you had been there. God bless you.

Monday - August 30th - We had a concert last evening; Sgt. Collier sang "Phil the Flute" Ball and had the Japanese guards almost dancing to it. My darling, I had a wonderfully real dream about you last night. We were walking up the Falls Rd. together from Berriedy's. We had someone a look. Then I filled Spring Villa with my relatives - to our disgust! I was bitterly disappointed in ^{God bless you} ~~working~~.

Tuesday - August 31st - My darling, I love you just a bit more today. I am nearer to you now than ever and nothing can separate us - not even 12,000 miles of land and sea. A dull day with some rain and no excitement. My serious patients are doing well thank God. May He bless you darling.

Wednesday - September 1st - Another day of sunbathing in the garden with you and my dreams of Belfast and Dublin and where we shall go together when I reach home again. I love you, Ellen darling. God bless you.

- Thursday - September 2nd (Annie's Birthday) :- Another day of sunshine and no excitement. The hospital has improved above all knowing. All patients have wooden sandals now; two decent commodes etc. One bath day; baking to night; fresh fish last night and to night! Becoming cold again. Paddy speaking me. God bless you.
- Friday - September 3rd :- A cold wet weary day for me. Very weak with diarrhoea, but there are many much worse than I. A day of dreams about you, our marriage, and our future happiness together. It makes me too happy to think about it. It is you I live for and you I will love unto death. God bless you Eileen.
- Saturday - September 4th :- My darling I worship you today and you will always be my idol and my ideal. Oh what a fool I have been in the past not to have realised that you loved me; we could have been married and had our own home by this time. I am ashamed of myself, but please forgive me. God Bless you.
- Sunday - September 5th :- Mass, Communion, Rosary, Swimming, concert, good dinner and bed! That is a summary of another happy day. I had a present today of a lovely pair of gambrels for the winter. I have loved and adored you Eileen so very much this day. I can never love you enough. God Bless you.
- Monday - September 6th :- Not much change today except that I love you more and oh my darling I shall love you more and more each day of my life. Oh I never knew that any man could love a woman so much as I love you, Eileen. Every moment of my life is yours and God - you both go together. May He bless you.
- Tuesday - September 7th :- Flies (mullins) all day and mosquitoes all night; diarrhoea day and night; rotting on the legs! Isn't life grand? Not much work nowadays, and so I have more time for you, Eileen. You should see my gambrels now. I have sewn them very neatly. They are St. Louis Blue colour! God bless you.
- Wednesday - September 8th :- It has rained all day and we spent it indoors. The flies were terrible. I killed 50 in about 2 minutes! My own darling when this war is over I shall make everything up to you - the years of misery I have caused you. God bless you, Eileen.
- Thursday - September 9th :- My darling, I had an apple today as a present! What news for you. I have felt better yesterday and today thank God. You are ever in my heart. God bless you Eileen.
- Friday - September 10th :- Another day means to you, my darling. Nothing exciting today except bread for Annie + fish! My tummy still rumbles away but I feel alright. I am reading 'A year of my life' by A.G. Street - a famous diary. Some delightful photographs in it of rural England. God bless you Eileen.

Saturday - September 11th :- My darling, what a miserable day of driving rain and cold. Of course it rained in on my things too to make matters worse, but I love you more than ever in spite of all this. I wonder each day at different times what you are doing in far off Ormuz. Sometimes you are asleep in bed dreaming, then you are just getting up and off to brass when my day is nearly ended; then school; then home. God bless you.

Sunday - September 12th :- Had a rotten day but feel better this evening. Nothing exciting to tell you except that I love you a little bit more today than yesterday. I cannot understand myself for ever leaving you, my darling. I promise you, I shall never leave your side again. God bless you.

Monday - September 13th :- Nothing much happening - except pork for dinner to night - in small quantities! I am happy these days though I feel bad! You know why I am happy, God bless you. I shall love you unto death, Eileen. Nothing can ever change my love for you, Eileen. You are my all.

Tuesday - September 14th :- My darling, I am loving you more at this moment than any man has ever loved. Oh what a future of happiness we have ahead of us when we become united again. A quiet day with bread at night and diarrhoea worse. Now I long to be fit again, but God's will be done.

Wednesday - September 15th :- My darling, I am fasting today + salts to try my line again. Of course there would be meat for lunch and crackers for supper! But I don't mind much. The men are worried about me and offer me all sorts of deumtion to build me up again. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - September 16th :- My darling, I am feeling much better today. My tummy feels grand and my sunbathing continues apace. All my patients are doing well. Eileen darling, I feel that this awful war is now drawing to a close and we shall be together soon. God bless you.

Friday - September 17th :- Eileen soon my darling, I am feeling well again and oh what a difference it makes to life in a POW camp. Japanese officers told us that 5 POW ships had been sunk in the past week - and your Frank is still alive. I love you with my all. God bless you.

Saturday - September 18th :- Another glorious day and dreams of you my darling. When are you going to write to me? I fear all your letters are going to Tokyo and then back to Malaya. I will adore you.

Sunday - September 19th :- No holiday; no brass but plenty of work. It was a cheerless day, but I have loved you with all my heart and soul. Do I love you too much, Eileen? No matter what pain it may cause me I shall go on loving you more and more. I could not love you too much.

Monday - September 20th - The Japanese doctor came from Hakodate today - a new chap - and promised to send us lots of drugs. He had verbal messages from Officers and men at Hakodate for me and none for anyone else here. I felt so pleased that someone remembers me besides you, my darling. God bless you Helen.

Tuesday - September 21st - A cold miserable day. This camp is ideal when the sun is shining but also it is awful when rain and cold are rampant. The food remains good, however. There is talk about moving to a new camp at the end of next month. My darling, I am still in love with you.

Wednesday - September 22nd - Just another day means to you, my darling; another day loving you more than yesterday. Winter has come and here I am with my left shirt and shorts! Frozen stuff in bed last night. Are you praying as hard as I am for the end of this awful war. Thank God the end is in sight. God bless you Helen.

Thursday - September 23rd - A terrible day of cold and rain. The men have to work through it all drenched to the skin - some of them have no boots. My heart bleeds for them - and it bleeds for you too my darling. Oh how can I love you the way you deserve to be loved. I will try hard. God bless you.

Friday - September 24th - Another rotten day. Have been reading "The Enemy" a story of the last war. Haven't much work to do these days but there will be a big crop of illness very soon. Oh my darling, I should go crazy here if it were not for you, God, and Ireland. God bless you.

Saturday - September 25th - Still very cold and still I love you. The cold has come to stay. What it will be like in winter I hate to think. A holiday to morrow thank God for the sun. The camp officers have been promised a bear-hunting expedition in the hills! Never hoping. God bless you.

^{Yasuma}
Sunday - September 26th - Confession, Mass, Communion in the open air but it was cold. I prayed harder than ever for you, my darling. Travellers 8 miles walk in the hills with Maloney, Wynne, the Japanese Officer (Kudo), and 4 Japanese guards. It was a foretaste of freedom. There were Irish glens and running brooks. There were delightful little farms, larch woods, silver birch, fens, and a marvellous view of Volcano Bay. We gathered wild grapes - I had great fun away up in the vine. No beer available. Pleasantly tired. Rice and water stew. God bless you.

Monday - September 27th - A sunny day with glorious thoughts of you my darling, and of our reunion in the near future. Oh how I long for that day to come, Helen, the joy it will bring to us both.
God bless you

Tuesday - September 28th - It rained all day and the men had a half day. The aerodrome will take three years to finish - the war should be over by that time! I have day dreamed of you the whole day through my darling. All my patients are doing well thank God - it is a miracle really. God bless you, Celine.

Wednesday - September 29th - Another day of dreaming of you. Surely our big day will come soon. I have been learning the words of "The Wot's asleep", "Biddy Mulligan", "John O'Higin" "O'Donnell Allen"! Imagine such a thing in a Japanese Prisoner of War camp! A little sun today. How are things at school today? God bless you.

Thursday - September 30th - Had a quiet afternoon in the sunshine with you my darling. Oh the dreams I dream of you and the joy they bring to my heart. Celine, you should see my new winter jacket made from blanket, brass buttons etc. Paddy gave me half a blanket and a patient sewed it up. God bless you.

Friday - October 1st - A real summer day and two planes landed on the runway of the aerodrome. I am very fit these days, darling, and am putting on weight. Oh my darling how much longer do we have to wait for our reunion. I still say Good morning and Good night to you and say my prayers. God bless you.

Saturday - October 2nd - My darling, another day gone and the war nearly over. I am glad now that I came to Japan instead of going up to Scotland and pine. Accommodation is not ideal here but at least they are bearable. Anything is bearable with you loving me, Celine. God bless you and your love.

Sunday - October 3rd - Yessure today - rain, cold, sleet. The men all retired under the blanket. Extracted a tooth successfully. No Mass today on account of the weather. Paddy is a Gem and still spoils me with comforts and books. I know not where they come from! God bless you my darling.

Monday - October 4th - A quiet day but still cold. My new jacket is finished - beautiful buttons (Royal Artillery), two pockets, epaulettes etc., double breast. You will be jealous if it. It is no! Jacket in camp. My darling, I adore you today and lay my heart at your feet. God bless you.

Tuesday - October 5th - My darling, another glorious day of Japan's late summer, and all I did was dream of you. Man broke his arm today and I had to set it and put on improvised splints. God bless you.

Wednesday - October 6th - A most dreadful night of cold. I haven't warmed up yet in spite of my new jacket. Still it is good to be alive and in love with a darling - you Celine. God bless you.

Thursday - October 7th : We now have sugar and milk for hospital patients. The O. M. came from Hakodate yesterday and ordered it. An Indian Summer's day! Oh my darling, if only you knew how much I love you, you would come out to Japan straight away and marry me. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - October 8th : Oh my darling, if only you could share my dreams by day and night you would not be too unhappy. You are ever with me in those dreams and every moment too. I live only for you, for God, and my country. The Japanese quaras salute me nowadays! Nothing exciting today. God bless you.

Saturday - October 9th : Another quiet day; am in good spirits and in better health. Food is good - lots of fish because we live by the sea: lots of potatoes, barley and vegetables, but no bread. Have been promised barley porridge to-morrow morning. But I don't love you the same as ever - I love you very much more. God bless you.

Sunday - October 10th : No Mass today because no holiday. I dreamed last night of you, of Dublin, of Jimmy O'Sea, and our Volcano in eruption. I feel quite happy and fit these days and oh my darling it is all due to you. I could not live without you and your love. They are all to me. God bless you.

Monday - October 11th : My darling, another glorious day with you in the garden - blue skies and hot sun. There are rumours of us leaving here on 25th or 26th. The new camp is quite beautiful, but we are all moving together thank God that means Mass occasionally (and that is everything). God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - October 12th : A glorious day munching sweets and dreaming of you. Oh my darling I must confess that the more I love you, the more I am missing you. My Eileen won't it be wonderful when we meet again at Southampton. I shall love you always. God bless you.

Wednesday - October 13th Third anniversary of mother's death (R.I.P.). I still cannot believe that she will not be on the steps of Beechwood to welcome me home. I behaved so abominably to her. Some apples and sweets today! We are being spoiled, Eileen - we have little to complain of. God bless you.

Thursday - October 14th Hakodate doctor came today; we inoculated all troops against dysentery. Then he took me for a trip in the motor cycle with S/In Dixon. It was grand fun speeding along. We saw the men at work. Many things came - also rubber shoes for bootless me. God bless you.

Friday - October 15th : I dreamed of Lawrence Higgins last night! I thought he would marry you at one time - I was jealous! What a blind fool he must have been. Dismissed today and I love you more. God bless you.

Saturday - October 16th :- I had a wonderful dream of you last night, my darling. Oh how happy we are always together even in a dream. What will the reality be like Helen. We shall have a heaven on earth in our home. - We shall be the happiest couple in the world. God bless you.

Sunday - October 17th :- Mass and Holy Communion this morning for you, my darling. We have open air mass but it was cold and wet today - our spasmic. Rained most of the day and so we had a miserable time sitting on the stable floor and eating like animals. I still love you Helen. God bless you.

Monday - October 18th :- We had a hay day in account of rain. Very cold and misery. How horrible sitting on the floor eating dinner in ^{the} darkness of this stable! I shall be able to appreciate food and ordinary comfort when this is all over. My darling, I adore you more today. God bless you.

Tuesday - October 19th :- Winter is coming but my love for you is growing warmer each day. It seems that it rains here from November till April - oh! what a prospect. We move to our new camp on the 25th of this month. You will soon be having your mid term holiday for school. God bless you.

Wednesday - October 20th :- Another day means thank God, but oh how I long and yearn for our big day. Oh my darling the thought of that day makes me so very happy and keeps me alive. I could never live without your love now that I have found it. My paralyzed case walked today. All is well. God bless you.

Thursday - October 21st :- Almost frozen in bed last night with cold - never felt so cold in all my life. And winter has not come yet. I did not thaw till the afternoon. Nothing exciting today. I love you more and more the longer we are apart. Am looking forward to our next camp and settling down for winter. God bless you.

Friday - October 22nd :- A bitterly cold day. My patients all doing well, though I have no means of diagnosing many of them. I have to rely solely on my hands, eyes, ears, and touch. No X-rays, no urine or stool tests, no stethic, no anything. We move on Monday next to Morava. I love you. God bless you, Helen.

Saturday - October 23rd :- My darling, the temperature was 40° F today - coldest yet. We are to have warm clothing issued at our next camp. My hospital is almost empty now, getting ready to move on Monday. Thank heavens we shall have some comfort at next station. I love you more today, my Helen.

Sunday - October 24th :- No mass today. Amque packing for the journey to Morava afternoon. Have to hide my letters due to reach at next camp, but I'll always love you, darling. God bless you.

- Monday - October 25th - The big move to Muroon has been completed and we are duly installed. It is a model POW camp with every convenience. I am sharing a cosy room with Capt. Malaney - electric light, a bed, soap, better food. The hospital looks very good. Things are looking up. God bless you.
- Tuesday - October 26th - A busy day sorting out the patients and the hospital. There are 350 Dutch and 370 of us here - they have six officers and we have 19. Hot water bottles tonight for Malaney and me. Much colder than stout work to Muroon. Rest of my kit is due to arrive. God bless you.
- Wednesday - October 27th - Things have settled down at last. I am D.C. hospital as I am senior to the Dutch doctor; my 3 sergeants are installed in the hospital. Tea, sugar, sweets, matches etc. bought today! Good treats continue. Commandant very pleased with hospital. God bless you.
- Thursday - October 28th - My darling, a very full day's work and I am off to bed and my hot water bottle satisfied with life. If things continue as they are in this camp the time will soon pass and we shall be together again. Oh how I long to see you again my Helen. God bless you.
- Friday - October 29th - I have sorted things out here at last and the hospital is running smoothly. I am the only one of the 19 British and 6 Dutch officers that is doing anything here. Thank God I have a job to do. Thank God I have your love to sustain me. Surely He will bring us together soon again. May He bless you.
- Saturday - October 30th - My darling, things are going well and I am satisfied with life. I may not want to leave here when peace comes! My quarters are much more comfortable than my Malayan ones in peacetime. My Parang has made lovely curtains! My pictures adorn the walls. God bless you.
- Sunday - October 31st - I had a terrible disappointment today. Man was due at 9 a.m. but did not begin till 9.50 a.m.; I had to rush off to sick parade at 9.55 a.m. and so missed Mass. I could have kept until 10. It was a Yessume day and we had bread for tiffin. Not much work. Japanese doctor inspected hospital.
- Monday - ~~Oct~~ November 1st - I am now reading that book called "Plushmasreeby" - from the Japanese camp library! It's all about Japan and it has brought me back home again to you Helen. Canteen day - sugar soap, bread, biscuits and Lunnets! Our food is really good nowadays. Many men sick unfortunately. You could never be dearer to me than you are today, my darling. God bless you.

Tuesday - November 2nd (All Soul's Day) - Cold and wet for the men working. We have a bath every three days. Get up at 5.30 am; P.T. and roll call at 6 am; hospital food; breakfast; hospital rounds at 8 am; wash; Messing at 10 am; hospital lunch and my own at 11.30; Washing; Messing at 5 P.M.; hospital supper and mine at 5.30 P.M.; Dick parade 6.30; Roll call 8 P.M.; Bed. God bless you.

Wednesday - November 3rd - Newspapers today - things are going well with us. My darling, I had a glorious dream about you last night and I loved you more than any man has loved. Have finished "Aspirin" - Inspected by Hokodate Colonel. Present in hospital at night. God bless you.

Thursday - November 4th - Inspected by a Major General this morning. He seemed pleased. My darling, I dreamt that we were in an air raid together at home, but I treated it all as being being so used to air raids! I was relieved to find it a dream. God bless you, Helen abanah.

Friday - November 5th - I shall be allowed to send you a postcard to-morrow. I should be sending one each month from now on. If only I could have another letter from you, my darling. Capt. Andrey thinks you resemble me very much! Your soap is on my table at my bedside. God bless you.

Saturday - November 6th - Cold and wet to day, but we have means of keeping warm day and night. There is a good stove in the hospital; the patients are well fed. I am making a lamp shade today and your postcard has been written. I shall always love you, my darling. God bless you.

Sunday - November 7th - My darling, snow today and oh was it cold! We are going to have a real old fashioned Christmas tonight. Sent Jimmy a card today. Nothing exciting today but still plenty of work. No Mass today as it is not a holiday. I love you as never before, Helen. God bless you.

Monday - November 8th - Canteen today - Sugar, biscuits, and cigarettes! Some shining today but still very cold. The Java troops feel the cold much worse than we. My darling, I'll soon be home again to you and happiness. I know it must come soon. God bless you and yours.

Tuesday - November 9th - Rain came today and things were warmer. Two stoves for officers (25) installed. No canteen or cigarettes for the men since we came here. They miss their smoke. Have blankets and warm underclothes today; 5 thick and 1 thin blanket each. I am longing for news of you Helen and our dear ones. God bless you.

Wednesday - November 10th - I had my first wonderful dream of you last night, Helen. I spent my night in and around the Falls Road with you. We were at your shop in Huron Street; Felix was there too - also your Josephine and Annie (R.I.P.). I was in my blanket jacket and top; we went to an O'Sullivan meeting. We had a town ride together and oh I was so proud of you. You were glasses and had a spout but I adored you as ever. God bless you.

Thursday - November 11th - Big advances in the hospital - we have stores going, but water, stings etc.. We get the full blast of the Siberian wind here and oh it is cold. Snow this evening! Some winter clothing today but it doesn't fit me. These men have hard work to do and are always hungry. We have a microscope now! God bless you.

Friday - November 12th - It has snowed all day and the west wind was howling. I pay about 8 visits daily to the hospital and so I get the benefit of the cold while the other officers are in bed! I am being recommended for home next winter please God! I am praying for health to do my job till the end. God bless you.

Saturday - November 13th - Much snow on the ground as we paraded for roll call this morning at 6am (dawn) and oh it was cold. The stores were lit last night but I had no time to get near them. Oh my darling, I offer up all my discomforts to him for you; I have you so much that you have my all. God bless you.

Sunday - November 14th - Mass and Communion this morning thank God - and all my prayers were for you Helen. Oh how I have loved you this day above all days. One of the men died suddenly yesterday and it depressed me. Real porridge this morning + sugar. Quite a busy day - Jerome Cantor in hospital. God bless you.

Monday - November 15th - The Swedish Consul came from Hakodate today and inspected the camp and the hospital. I had quite a chat with him (in English) about the health of the men. He was the first civilized European civilian I had seen for days. Nautens today - biscuits, cigarettes, and sugar + 3 apples! God bless you.

Tuesday - November 16th - We have two cases of Chickenpox in hospital, and it is causing quite a scare in camp. Not an exciting day. The snow has gone and the sun shines again, thank God. Pleasant day dreams of you. I did some mending in the afternoon - oh how I need a good wife! Would you marry me? God bless you.

Wednesday - November 17th - A quiet day. Weather much milder now and no snow. Read all about De Valera ("Finnish Europe") in bed last night - hot water bottle at my feet, pipe in mouth, shaded electric lamp at my bedside, and you on my table! I am being spoiled here, but I love you more. God bless you.

Thursday - November 18th - Snow today but I have become acclimatized by this time. I keep away from Stoves as much as possible. Father O'Mahoney has now got permission to have a small chapel and the Blessed Sacrament will be resumed there always. It is wonderful news but more wonderful is that he will have Mass three or four times a week and I am the only one allowed to be present - no troops allowed (by order). Oh my darling think of the joy that almost daily Mass will bring to me and you. God bless you, Helen

Friday - November 19th - Capt. Mahoney made porridge yesterday and today - Oh what a feast a we had with it and sugar. We had 3 loaves of white bread each - we eat too much as prisoners. We had rabbit stew for lunch! It snowed the whole day through and I dreamt of you. God bless you.

Saturday - November 20th - Another loaf today - so we had toast and sugar with tea after lunch (grilled crackers (2), potatoes (3), and onion stew)! Still snowing but not so pleasant, it is thawing a bit. One of my patients is recovering miraculously since his First Communion! God bless you Helen.

Sunday November 21st - My darling, I had Mass and Communion today all to myself in a very small room at 6.30 am. Oh what happiness it has brought to me today. My darling, I can never love you as much as I love you now no matter how I try. I shall always love you like this. God bless you.

Monday - November 22nd - An elderly Dutch Officer Capt. Neep was struck today and his name listed. We protested to the Commandant. St. Smith was struck yesterday on roll call. Ration today biscuits, matches, sugar. No cigarettes. Oh my darling, I am almost weary of waiting but it will end soon. God bless you.

Tuesday - November 23rd - My old friend, diarrhoea, is back again and I feel rotten. What I need is a good nurse (like you, Helen!) to nurse me. Bitterly cold today but we are used to it now. All patients are doing well thank God. Have you still got your black park (divorce suit too)? God bless you.

Wednesday - November 24th - I have been trying to picture things for today as they are at home compared with here. We have sugar every day and lots of biscuits, tea, cigarettes, and soap! Nothing exciting today. No snow. I am to have some Christmas cards made! Love you. God bless you.

Thursday - November 25th (Charlie's 12th Anniversary R.I.P.) - I was weighed today and am 81 kgms - gained 13 kgms since Yakuimo days! Heaviest officer in camp! Porridge and sugar in bed! God bless you.

Friday - November 26th :- I had a day dream to day of our future home and I had some taste of the happiness we would have together, Eileen. Oh how wonderful it will all be for us. We were paid today (£50) - more than last camp. Big camp anniversary holiday in December 1st. God bless you.

Saturday - November 27th :- My first pneumonia of the winter was admitted to hospital today. Things are going well there but many must have to go out working in the cold. Oh my darling when shall I see you again. My heart is broken at times with all this waiting. Now you know. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - November 28th :- Mass and Communion this morning all for you, my darling, and it has made me so very very happy. Our dear Lord and you are the sources of all my joy. I had a strange heart irregularity this evening but nothing to worry about. No holiday today. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - November 29th :- Snowed all day - 30° (2° below zero!). We had to shovel coal for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour in the afternoon it was grand fun. Fr. O'Mahony had a concert today. Canteen - sugar, salt, cakes, biscuits, cigarettes, polish! A grateful patient, Berger, gave me a packet of tobacco. God bless you.

Tuesday - November 30th :- We had a marvellous time shovelling coal in the Duon - not to mention a good round of snowballs! I turned out in white gloves, navy blue pullover, yellow scarf, cap, boots, gaiters and battle trousers! I felt so very fit Eileen and happy. Two patients very ill to night. God Bless you.

Wednesday - December 1st :- A very sad day for me - my two patients died this morning. They said for a long time they wanted to die - I knew they would not last the severe winter. This was the first Anniversary of the camp - everyone had presentations, special meals and saki. We had 6 bowls each. Also there was no Mass today. The concert was a big success and the Japanese officers bowled at Phil the Flute. God bless you.

Thursday - December 2nd (4 years a soldier!) :- Oh what a glorious dream I had of you, my darling, last night. We were so very happy together going off to a bustling match. My usual disappointment in waking to reality and 2° below freezing! Snow all day and awful cold. Very busy nowadays. Many sick. God bless you.

Friday - December 3rd :- Another dream of you last night, my Eileen. We had arranged to meet in Saturday at 2.30 pm! I drop off to sleep each night with you and our dear Lord in my heart. How could I be happier under the circumstances. For you I live and I shall die without you. God bless you always. Intensely cold and snowing. Icicles in sheet this morning.

- Saturday - December 4th (my 31st Birthday) :- My darling, I am growing old! A very uneventful birthday - nothing happened. I had no presents and no letters. I would have given anything for a letter from you Celen. It seems that Red Cross supplies are due in 5 days time. Letters arrived but were fewer. *God bless you.*
- Sunday - December 5th :- Mass and Communion this morning, thank God and oh what happiness and consolation they brought me. I know He will bless our love and our marriage. Another pneumonia today. Still snowing hard and very cold but I like it now. Have a rotten throat and cold. *God bless you.*
- Monday - December 6th :- Canteen day - sugar, salt, apples, biscuits, cigarettes, paper! We are living like lords. The snow is melting a bit but my heart is melting too. Oh my darling we have a precious treasure - our love - which is so very precious to us. I shall always love you. *God bless you.*
- Tuesday - December 7th :- Japanese doctor came today from Hakodate and examined the men sick. Wanted to send most of the men out to work. Rained all day and so no real fatigue as yesterday. Very little Red Cross medical supplies are coming. I still love you. *God bless you, Celen.*
- Wednesday - December 8th :- How lucky I was to have Mass and Communion this morning for Ursula's great feast day. There was a blizzard on the sick this morning by the Japanese doctor. Snowing hard this afternoon - not good for my back! Have finished reading "Royal Regiment" by Frankau. *God bless you, Celen.*
- Thursday - December 9th :- My darling, I sent you a hard last night. I had a marvellous dream about you and Frances last night. It all took place at the corner of Falls Rd. and Grosvenor Rd! We had a marvellous time together. Some Red Cross parcels and food came today - very little and not much. *God bless you, Celen.*
- Friday - December 10th :- Temperature is well below zero nowadays with heaps of snow! Another pneumonia case today. We all congregate in our small sitting room around the stove and read, smoke, and chat every day. But most of my time is spent at the hospital. Another dream of mine last night. *God bless you.*
- Saturday - December 11th :- My darling I love you more today than ever. Fine leaves came today! You would like the rabbits and the pigs here - how they must feel the cold. Below zero again. *God bless you.*
- Sunday - December 12th :- My darling, I still love you as I loved you when I met you at Rangoon - but a million times more. Mass and Communion this morning for you, Celen. I was the only one present at Mass. *God bless you.*

Monday - December 13th :- Bazaar day and oh what a feast of good things we had from the Center. My sweet tooth will be very tiring. I am still smoking my pipe of peace a lot. Our Red Cross food is to be issued for Christmas Day. The buses are melting and temperature is now 38° F. God bless you.

Tuesday - December 14th :- Very mild today with rain. More dreams of you last night, my darling. If my dreams would only come true we would be the two happiest people in the world, maybe they will come true soon. Oh my, Helen how I long to see you again and be happy with you always.

Wednesday - December 15th :- We got our Red Cross parcels today; I got tea, sugar, beef stew & rice, a tin of corned beef and a little cocoa. I was unlucky in the draw for chocolate and sweets. Oh my darling when will it all end - this eternal waiting can be bothersome but it can only make me love you more.

Thursday - December 16th :- I am alone with you in my room tonight - Maloney and 100 men have gone off to Hakodate. It was a very sudden move and there was great excitement. Oh my darling I do love you so very much more to night. Yet I can never love you enough. God bless you, Helen.

Friday - December 17th :- I have been lonely today without Maloney; Saar, Mitchell, and Smith are gone, so we have 15 British and 6 Dutch officers now. Another pneumonia case last night. Boal fatigue today for one hour. My room is a bit bare now; have now my statue in the table with your soap. God bless you.

Saturday - December 18th :- Have just finished a batch of artificial coffee and Nestle's milk! A present from one of my Regiments. Paddy is still doing me proud here. I intend having a feast at Christmas; must make some Christmas cards for you Helen. Am having Boal hearing in the afternoon. God bless you.

Sunday - December 19th ^{Yasume} :- My darling, I had Mass and Communion this morning for you, for peace, and for Ireland. So it has been a happy day, though bitterly cold. All is well at the hospital thank God. All is well with my love for you, Helen. I shall love you so long as there is life in me. God bless you.

Monday - December 20th :- My darling, if only you could realize what it means to me to know that there is someone in far off Ireland who loves me - it can make my prison life so sweet. Last night I had the awful longing to be walking with you under the stars among the hills near Beechwood; to have you near me. Please God that day will come soon, though it seems I doubt it. I shall love you forever, Helen. God bless you.

Tuesday - December 21st - Another day nearer to you Helen, my darling. Time is passing very quickly here because I am occupied all day long. Did some stanning and coal heaving today. We have heaps of coal here thank God. We are having Mass on Christmas Eve at 9 PM. I forgot to tell you that almost every man of the 100 who left recently shook hands with me and thanked me! God bless you.

Wednesday - December 22nd - A restless dreamy night with dreams of Frances and you, we were all at a glance together. One of our men was carried into hospital unconscious today from the guard house, been there for 10 days without blankets - he was stone cold and will soon die. God bless you.

Thursday - December 23rd - My darling, I do love you so very much this night - you could never dream how much love is in this heart of mine for you. It is all yours and will always be yours and yours alone. Oh my darling, what do you see in me to love; I am resting in your sight. You are too good for me, Helen. I was forced ^{today} at the Vaguet point to omit the cause of death of Suttle. God bless you.

Friday - December 24th - Christmas Eve! I have just returned from Midnight Mass (8.30!); and I am happy and sad at the same time. My Mass and Communion were for you, Helen. I thought of the silver candlesticks and how I would be absent yet another Christmas from you. God bless you.

Saturday - December 25th - Christmas Day! The worst I have ever known. Special present of one apple each! The men worked an extra hour. The snow came a bit late in the afternoon. Concert was cancelled - too cold. I had a day dream of you my darling preparing your Christmas dinner at Spring Villa; I saw a diamond ring on your finger; I saw too silver candlesticks too. God bless you.

Sunday - December 26th - Mass and Communion in my room this morning. Father O'Mahoney offered up Holy Mass for my intentions - which were you, Helen. You were by my side throughout, and I loved you dearly. It was 6° below zero today and the Siberian wind blowing. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - December 27th - Oh what a heaven on earth my room is now - Mass and Communion in it again this morning for you, Helen. What joy and consolation this brings to me. Only 4° below zero today!

Tuesday - December 28th - My darling Mass every day this week in my little room. Oh I love it and don't mind the cold a bit. Have finished reading "Guy and Pauline" (MacKenzie). God bless you.

1943 - 1944

Wednesday - December 29th - New Anniversary (3rd)! I can still picture you writing that sweetest letter three years ago at Spring Viller and kindly asking if I felt the same about you then as I did in the old days. Now I wish I had all your letters with me now. But I have your love, your prayer, and your heart - that is more than enough to make me happy. No mass today as our call was too late. I shall have to miss Mass tomorrow on account of sick parade. Another Pneumonia today. I shall love you for ever. God Bless you, Helen.

Thursday - December 30th - My darling, I have been reading your letters again for the thousandth time. Yes, our love is a mutual love that will last forever. Nothing can ever change it, Helen - not even death itself. A thaw set in today and the snow has vanished. Boat leaving in the afternoon and glorious thoughts of you. ^{God Bless you}

Friday - December 31st 1943 - Many degrees below zero to night - and so I am cold! Mass and Communion this morning for you in the new chapel. Fr. D'Kruahany wants to call it the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows!! A holiday for the town but not for me. I still love you Helen. God Bless you.

Saturday - Dec 31st January 1st 1944 - New Years Day - the last year of the war please God. We began the day by parading and facing the Emperor's palace! I had Mass and Communion for you at 11 am. We had 3 oranges and two apples each as a present. I have resolved to love you more this year! God Bless you.

Sunday - January 2nd - Mass and Communion this morning again for you and all at home, Helen. The nips refused to send one of my patients to a decent hospital for operation today; the brain has osteomyelitis and will die. My darling, how I long to get back to Kilmington again. God Bless you.

Monday - January 3rd - Oh, my darling, I had such a very wonderful dream about you last night. You were sitting in a balcony overlooking a large square and I came up to you. All our Jewish friends were there too and my uniform did not matter. We were so happy. I have had a sad day - two deaths - one osteomyelitis & pyaemia and the other dysentery. Extracted tooth for Miss Jorda. God Bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - January 4th - I went to the local crematorium today in an open truck and was fascinated! It was a weird place - bells tolling, robed Buddhist priests chanting, thousands of relatives standing at me as if I were an odd being. We should goat every day now. My darling, I know the war will soon be over - the Germans cannot last much longer. I shall always be loving you. God Bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - January 5th :- Do you realise, young woman, that I am awakened at night by earth tremors, my bed and room are rocking to and fro! Still bitterly cold but I love you all the more. Capt. Pinkney is very ill and I have nothing to give him or diagnose him with. God bless you, Helen.

Thursday - January 6th :- Mass and Communion this morning for your intentions, my darling. And oh it was so very cold - 9° below freezing point. Had a quiet day. Am reading Sherlock Holmes' Case Book. It is quite refreshing. Do you still love me, Helen as I love you? God bless you, darling.

Friday - January 7th :- A terrific blizzard this evening and snow all over my bed! How would you like that young woman? Not to mention an earth tremor in the morning and coal hauling in the cold afternoon. Oh my darling, I do love you so very much and will always love you. God bless you.

Saturday - January 8th :- A blue sky, a strong sun, snow covered ground, 7° below freezing! My darling, the war will surely be over soon for you all at home. There is great discontent in this country among the workers; they proclaim that Britain is "Jötter". God bless you, Helen.

Sunday - January 9th :- Feast of the Holy Family - Mass and Communion this morning for your own sweet self, Helen. I sent father a post card to night but heaven alone knows if it will ever reach home or not. Oh my darling I do love you with all my heart. God bless you.

Monday - January 10th :- I sent post cards to father and Gony to night but will they ever receive them I know not. Snow still falling though not so cold. A winter at home will be nothing to me. Japanese doctor came today and gave us no hope. My darling, I still love you more and more. God bless you.

Tuesday - January 11th :- My darling, we were mixed with great coats - Australian pattern (jackets). Oh what a difference it makes. My turn to light the fire in the morning and make tea! Nothing exciting today; still well below zero! And I love you infinitely more to night. God bless you Helen.

Wednesday - January 12th :- Another day passes to you, my darling, and freedom. Blizzards today and very cold in the snow. I saw a golden eagle today and several hawks. God bless you, Helen.

Thursday - January 13th :- Mass and Communion this morning for you, my darling. I am happy. I have finished reading "Full Harvest". My darling, can I ever love you enough? God bless you.

Friday - January 14th - Another day means to you, my darling. Still cold, but I love you all the more. The guards think the war will be over in two months, but I think they are optimistic! May be I shall be home for Christmas - wouldn't it be wonderful, Celine? God bless you.

Saturday - January 15th - Mass and Communion this morning thank God - Mass for the Dead. How I prayed for you my darling and all our dear deceased. It was 18° F today! How you shudder of times more than yesterday. How love can make me happy. God bless you, Celine.

Sunday - January 16th - Mass and Communion today for you my darling. Fr. O'Mahoney has promised to say Mass on 19th & 20th for Josie (R.I.P.) and you, Celine for your birthday. A quiet day for our pleasure - Blue sky, Sun, Snow. May sunny every night and win always. God bless you.

Monday - January 17th - The days are slipping past me very rapidly and they bring me nearer and nearer to you, my darling. Heavy snow today. I like Timmer, Junker, and Mays of the Dutch Officers and also like Boski, Jongema, and Lutter. And I adore you, Celine. God bless you.

Tuesday - January 18th - Another uneventful day but I love you more and more my own darling. Haven't you grown weary of waiting for me all these years? I am not worth waiting for, Celine. Why cannot you see that? Love must be blind! Roll on freedom. God bless you.

Wednesday - January 19th - Nothing exciting today but to-morrow will be your 31st birthday, Celine. How old we both are now! I have a very precious present for you. Next year I shall be with you on your birthday, please God. May be we shall be married. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - January 20th - Many happy returns my own darling. Did you receive my presents? Holy Cross, a kiss, and my fancy shell. Oh how I longed to be with you this day. Some letters came today but none for me. Have had fever last night and today; better tonight. God bless you, Celine.

Friday - January 21st - Did you have a very happy birthday, Celine? I spent the whole day with you. Mass and Communion this morning for you. Very fit today. Came a case of hypotonia. God bless you.

Saturday - January 22nd - Snow, ice, and cold every day. I have had a pleasant day dream about our honeymoon in Ireland and America after the war. Would you like this, Celine? God bless you.

Sunday - January 23rd - Mass and Communion this morning and oh how hard I prayed for you, my darling. We are to be allowed half an hour's march each morning before breakfast outside camp. I have started my book again for you. I named the Barber today with threats. God bless you.

Monday - January 24th - My own darling, I had night dreams and day dreams of you. I have been wondering what we will look like to each other when we meet again? Will you be disappointed. Thank God you have probably heard of my safety by this time. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - January 25th - I have been with you all day long in my thoughts. You are ever with me, my darling. We had a 2½ miles run this morning in the snow; I was the leader and was first home! Many others were long behind! Another day nearer to you. God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - January 26th - Mass and Communion this morning for you, my darling. I was weighed today and am only 81 kgs. (125 10 lbs) which is my normal peace-time weight. Oh what happiness this morning brought to me. I sent you the usual message. God bless you.

Thursday - January 27th - I have been happy today because things are going well, thank God. We had a marvellous walk this morning in the snow - temperature 9° below freezing. How I wish you had been with me this morning and always. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - January 28th - We still have lots of oranges in spite of winter and the war. Food has improved a lot thanks to my monthly report; clothing is better for the men; Soap issued today. I read my Irish Verse in bed at night. I still dream of you my darling. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - January 29th - We had a marvellous run this morning away into the country before breakfast. O'Seani Nurse came with us. I had such a wonderful dream about you Eileen last night - it was my happiest dream about you so yet. How I do love you. God bless you.

Sunday - January 30th - Mass and Communion this morning for you my darling. A two mile run at 6.20 am in the snow! A quiet day thank God and a happy one. God bless you.

Monday - January 31st - Mass and Communion this morning for you, Eileen. Paddy has brought me a new carpet and chromium cup with lid. My room is a treat now. American Red Cross parcels arrived today but heaven knows when we shall get them. God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - February 1st : A terrific earthquake today - the buildings were swaying about for two minutes in the afternoon. I pray a special visit to our dear Lord each day for you, my darling. Oh to be free again and home with you once more. Still reading Irish Verse. And I still love you. God bless you.

Wednesday - February 2nd : A Japanese General paid us a visit today and inspected the camp. No Red Cross parcels yet, my darling, and oh how we are looking forward to them. I woulda hoped a letter from you to all the parcels in the world. My own darling, I do love you so much. God bless you.

Thursday - February 3rd : Our little chapel is now called "Our Lady of The Snows". Yes there has been snow on the ground for months now. It was 6° F. recently. I am still doing my special visits for you. I never forget you morning or night. You are ever in my heart. God bless you, Cileen.

Friday - February 4th : Mass and Communion this morning for you, my darling. Altar breads arrived from a local Trappist Monastery yesterday, thank God. Also Fr. O'Keefe will be leaving soon with 15 officers to Hakodate. Oh my Cileen it will be awful having no Mass here, but please God it will make me pray harder and keep me nearer to you. May he bless you.

Saturday - February 5th : Paddy made me a wonderful apple and orange rice pudding this afternoon. I hope he will be kept on as my butman when the others go away. No new developments about the move as yet. Very warm these days 0° C! I still adore you my darling. God bless you.

Sunday - February 6th : Mass and Communion this morning for you, Cileen. It was a Youssef Day and not very exciting. Am reading "The Road to Nowhere" again! I sent you a post-card this evening. Still heaps of snow and cold. Synthetic coffee! God bless you, Cileen.

Monday - February 7th : It has snowed all day long and yet it has been quite warm. Nothing exciting today. I pray so hard to him today when I visited him in the afternoon. Oh my darling how I do love you and how I long to see you again. Maybe it will come soon. God bless you.

Tuesday - February 8th : The coldest day ever - the North West (Siberian) wind has been howling all day long. The ground is covered with snow about 1 ft. deep. My room is like an ice chest and I have to light the fire tomorrow morning. I shall love you always. God bless you.

Wednesday - February 9th :- My own darling, it has been such a happy day for me. Mass and Communion this morning for you, and father, and peace, and Ireland. Then came the news that a letter has arrived in camp for me! Now I long for it and hope it is from you, Celeen. Then came a present from a group of men tobacco as a token of services rendered under difficult conditions. This made me happy to think that the men appreciate my work. I do adore you, my darling. God bless you.

Thursday - February 10th :- We have received our American Red Cross parcels ($\frac{4}{5}$ each) - Coffee, Sugar, Klean, Chesterfield Cigarettes (6), Corned beef, Soap, Kraft cheese, salted pork, jam, chocolate etc etc. The men are all delighted. I went and thanked him personally tonight and prayed for you in the Littlewood Chapel. Tonight. I asked him to bless our love, our marriage, and our children. God bless you Celeen.

Friday - February 11th :- Mass and Communion this morning for your health and a special visit to him in the chapel tonight. Japanese holiday, we had 3 oranges and 1 apple each today. Still very cold and snowing. Your letter has not reached me yet Celeen. God bless you darling.

Saturday - February 12th :- Oh my own darling I am so very happy since your letter came this evening. It was dated 13th Dec. 1942 and you were preparing for Christmas without me. Oh Celeen I do love you so very much more now and I shall love you forever. God bless you.

Sunday - February 13th :- Mass and Communion this morning in thanksgiving for your letter. ^{W. 50p} Oh my darling, I realize the wrong I have caused you and I am not worth it all. I have caused you heart-breaking tears and I am ashamed. It breaks my heart to know that you are weeping. Your letter is bewildering in parts - you talk of your substitute at Omagh. My own darling, did you have to give up your job on account of illness? I do not know what to think. If only I could have the missing letters, if I could only speak to you. Celeen darling, why do you have you not danced for a while yet - you who love dancing so much. I want you to be so happy - you must go to dance, you must enjoy yourself. I am glad you still burn our two candles on Christmas Eve. No letter from anyone but you thank God - I mean I want yours more than any other. It seems you have been lucky to have had a card from me

in October 1942 - I have not heard of any other cards reaching home even in December. I feel that I have let you down - everyone at home seems to be married except you, Cileen; you are the Cinderella of them all! I am so glad you still visit Beechwood and meet Gony often. He is a brick to write to me every week and yet not a letter has reached me. The Dutch doctor is ill and so I have double work - with my cough, cold, and diarrhoea, but I must not go sick home - too much depends upon me. There is a mild flu epidemic + bronchitis + pneumonia. I still love my work, thank God; I was meant to be a doctor if ever anyone was meant to be one. I shall always love you, my God, my Ireland, my home, and my work. God bless you, Cileen, for trusting in me and waiting for me. I am yours forever and ever. I have been mousing for the past week with a pickaxe! Can you imagine me doing Amalation work in the lockhouse. I am really exempted but the other officers (Ernie!) do it, so I lend a hand when I can - I want to do my share. All my love Cileen, Frank.

Monday - February 16th :- I have had a very busy day my darling, but had time to think of you and pray in the chapel to Him for you. I ask Him to bless you and not let you worry or be depressed. It is my only worry that you should be unhappy because of me. God bless you, Cileen.

Tuesday - February 15th :- Two years separation today - two long years of agony separated from you; but it has been God's will and has not been in vain. I have offered it all up to Him in atonement for my part. I adore you more than ever today, Cileen. Our love can never grow old with the advancing years - it will be always beautiful and pure and young. God Bless you.

Wednesday - February 16th :- Another day nearer to you, my darling. The snow is now several feet deep now and the cold waves - causing much chest trouble. I have now got the first cough of my life! I was chopping mortar off bricks all afternoon! What a doctor. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - February 17th :- I am wondering how I am going to make up to you for all the years of happiness that are due to you - you have missed so much of life in my account Cileen.

God bless you for loving me so much and being so loyal. I will always and have always loved you.

Friday - February 18th - I am in bed this evening with fever, cough, and cold. The officers are due to leave here on 21st. Not certain whether Fr. O'Mahoney will go or not. God grant that he remain behind. I love you more today. God bless you.

Saturday - February 19th I am much better today thank God. Alas I am losing Fr. O'Mahoney on Monday. Oh my darling, I am heart broken this day because I shall not have Mass for months and months - may be not until the war is over. It has been my great joy to have had our dear Lord here every day in the Tabernacle. I could speak to you through Him and ask so many things for us for both, for our love and our marriage. Six of us are remaining here - Borski, Jongsma, Jonker, Wynd, Lutter, and myself. God bless you, Darling.

Sunday - February 20th (Yasume) - Mass and Communion this morning for your intentions my darling. I think it will be my last Mass in Muroran until the war is over. It is a awful thought, Celen. I will pray even harder now for a speedy release. God bless you, Celen.

Monday - February 21st - Well, my darling, we are a lonely lot here to night since the 15 officers went to Hakodate at 1.30 p.m.. I was allowed to go to the station and see them off very informally (for prisoners). Lt. Hiatai was very decent about it all. Fr. O'Mahoney was very upset about leaving, but I promised to look after his flock. We exchanged addresses. God bless you.

Tuesday - February 22nd - Bitterly cold today. Had a note from Hakodate to say that things were not so good. A quiet day here. Had evening prayers in the Chapel which included our Petition to the Sacred Heart. I still love you, Celen. God bless you.

Wednesday - February 23rd - I am in very good spirits recently and think the war will end this year some time. This place is in the same latitude as Lyons but has the climate of Norway! Some of our men have died at Hakodate. Oh my darling, how much longer? God bless you.

Thursday - February 24th - The eternal snows are still with us but it is much milder. Oh my Celen, I do love you so very much with a love that nobody but you could understand. I have never loved anyone but you and will always love you and only you. God bless you, Darling.

Friday - February 25th :- A terrific blizzard today and the snow is banked up away above the windows in places! And yet I like it very much better than a Japanese Summer! Do you realize young woman that I am now in command of 316 men here? I am so very important as the Senior officer in the camp! However it has not changed me a bit and I love you more now than ever. God bless you, Cileen.

Saturday - February 26th :- My darling, should anything ever happen to me I want you to look after my batman, Paddy. He has been so good and devoted to me, he has nursed me and attended me ever since I have known him. All I can say is "Thank God I have such a man next me". Still snowing and blowing. Nothing much today. There are rumours of another party of officers and men coming here soon. I shall always love you, God bless you.

Sunday - February 27th :- A hot sun, a blue sky, and I love you more than I ever thought it possible to love any woman - 'woman' sounds strange because I have only known you as a girl. A peaceful day - the first Sunday in Lent. I intend not opening any of my Red Cross things until Easter Sunday - that will be some struggle in this place. The camp is quiet; there are no more beatings (recently) and thank God I have had something to do with it all. I have done all in my power to change this camp for the men and things have improved immensely. God bless you, Cileen.

Monday - February 28th :- My darling, I almost had a wireless message sent to you today. One British officer was allowed to send me - and that the loss suits Wynn! Still there will be another chance soon. Biscuits and cigarettes + sugar today. More snow. God bless you, Cileen.

Tuesday - February 29th :- My darling, how can I ever love you enough for all you have done for me, for loving me, praying for me, and keeping me good? I shall make it all up to you please God when I reach home again, when I get back home. Nothing much today. God bless you.

Wednesday - February March 1st :- How I do miss Mass and Communion these days, Cileen. I appreciate them more than ever now that I cannot have them. We have no news of any kind here and so we are in the dark - no newspapers at all. It will make wonderful reading afterwards when I reach home. Don't forget me, Matt. Darling. God bless you, Cileen.

Thursday - March 2nd :- My darling, Spring has come at last though the snows are still with us. An air raid practice today with armed troops in the camp. I am brushing up my Irish vocabulary today. I mean to take it up again when I go back home to you. We shall have an Irish Catholic home. God bless you.

Friday - March 3rd :- I paid out all our men tonight - I did it alone in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour; it used to need 10 officers 3 hours on the job! We are having much better treatment nowadays - we think it means the end of the war is near at hand! May God grant it will come very soon. God bless you Eileen.

Saturday - March 4th :- The sun has been shining all day long since March came in like a lamb - temperature now 40°F ! Spring has come and snows are melting and everything is fresh under foot. Paddy made me another apple and orange pudding tonight. Tomorrow is Good Friday. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - March 5th :- I said the Rosary, Litany, prayers for peace, and night prayers with the men today. We had quite a crowd. My darling, do you realize that I might be home for Christmas - then we could burn our sandals together and have a wonderful time. God bless you, Darling.

Monday - March 6th :- I am thinking of St. Patrick's Day and Kildares and Ireland and you my darling today. Please God we shall spend the next one together in Dublin and go to the Mansion House and dance all the dances I have loved. I want to see you do a hon pipe again and sing a Gaelic song - how I love you for them both. I shall always love you, Eileen. God bless you.

Tuesday - March 7th :- My darling, Spring is still here and I am still loving you more and more every day. I shall never be able to love you enough my darling or make up to you the sorrows I have caused you. Two casualties from beating today - a broken arm and a broken head (2 stitches). God bless you.

Wednesday - March 8th Another day means to you my darling. I grow weary at times of waiting but then I remember that you are suffering as much as I am. It must end sometime, my darling, and oh what happiness awaits us both for the rest of our lives. I can still picture our home at Beechwood. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - March 9th :- I have written a broadcast message to father tonight. How I do hope it will reach him or you. I may be allowed to send the next one to you, darling. A man died suddenly this morning from haemoptysis. It has worried me a lot. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - March 10th :- Cigarettes, biscuits and oranges today. Went to the Crematorium today in Lough; the latter was stranded in the snow and we had to carry the coffin over $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of deep snow. Later we went shopping with the guard and also to the post office. Very interesting day. God bless you, Celine.

Saturday - March 11th :- Oh my darling, how much longer will it be? I am only living for that day when we meet at Southampton. I shall recognise your Blouses suit at once. Oh Celine, I do adore you and everything about you. I shall love you forever and ever. A quiet day. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - March 12th :- O my Celine, I had such a wonderful dream about you and Frances last night; I remember kissing Frances! A few nights ago I dreamed that you opened your arms to receive me when I reached home. I have day dreams about my first day at home. God bless you darling.

Monday - March 13th :- My darling, I am having a special card made for your St. Patrick's Day Greetings. Please God our next one will be spent together. I find myself loving you more and more each day of my life. I am reading "The Fool of the Family" (Margaret Kennedy). God bless you, Celine.

Tuesday - March 14th :- Inspection by new Col. from Hakodate. Chatted to us few Officers for 2 hours in perfect English. He declared that Japanese women were the best in the world - I was bold enough to differ and declare Irish girls to be the world's best! I am so proud of you darling. God bless you.

Wednesday - March 15th :- My darling, I found out today that my broadcast message has not left camp as yet - so heaven knows when it will reach Belfast! Some replies have been received at Hakodate. Nothing much today except that I love you with all my heart and soul this night. God bless you, Celine.

Thursday - March 16th :- There is a terrific wave of optimism in the camp at present. We all feel that freedom will come soon. Paddy thinks it will come on 24th of this month! He made me a lovely apple and orange pudding today. Wrote my St. Patrick's Day cards to night. God bless you.

Wednesday - March 17th :- I had a present this morning of a v-leaf Shamrock from a patient but it was only on loan! I have had many shake-hands from the men - even from an Eurasian! Paddy was very pleased with his card which I sent to him in a stamped envelope. You had me too darling, Jerry, and Sgt. Collier the latter was delighted. God bless you Celine darling. Snowed all day long - a dreary St. Patrick's Day indeed.

Saturday - March 18th :- My darling, I had another grand dream about you last night. I was telling you all about the Malayan campaign, about India, and Japan. I have had a wonderful time travelling free all over the Far East. I shall always love you. God bless you.

Sunday - March 19th ^{Yasumi} :- We had the usual Rosary and prayers today in the Chapel. I sang "Father O' Flynn" at a hospital concert this afternoon and had a great reception. I am keeping the 4 leaf Shamrock until I leave this camp. Surely it will bring me luck - quick peace. God bless you.

Monday - March 20th :- My own darling, I am happier these days because I know the war will end this year sometimes and that soon you will be in my arms - for the first time. Oh Ellen how wonderful our first kiss will be; how happy we shall be then and always. God bless you.

Tuesday - March 21st :- my darling, I have such wonderful dreams about you and home these nights. I have my day dreams too of Spring Villetta, Beechwood, Gerry, Frances, Belfast, and Dublin. Nothing exciting happening to me nowadays. I like the lads more and more. God bless you.

Wednesday - March 22nd :- I have been reading your letters for the thousandth time again today and I love them more each time. Our time draws near. The second front will come soon and Germany will collapse - that will settle everything out here in quick time. God bless you, Ellen.

Thursday - March 23rd :- ~~More~~ letter arrived today but none for me as yet. I would give anything for another note from you, darling. You must be suffering during all these weary months of war as I am. God will make it up to us, Ellen, in His own good way. God bless you.

Friday - March 24th :- I had such a wonderful dream about Frances last night. I lent her my 4 leaf Shamrock before a Kamogie match and she was very pleased. You were playing too. A couple of feet of snow on the ground today but it is not too cold. There was a prize giving ceremony this evening in the assembly hall and I read the Commandant's speech. God bless you.

Saturday - March 25th (Annunciation) :- The new doctor is due to arrive here on Monday. It will be a novelty for us all - we might get some news of the outside world. Paddy has brought me a wonderful new mattress - he is a treasure to me. Nothing exciting today. God bless you, Ellen.

- Sunday - March 26th - Passim Sunday has been a quiet day. I had a very lovely dream about you last night, my darling. Surely we must see each other soon again. God will give us strength to endure it all. No matter what we are suffering, I always know that He has suffered more. God bless you, Helen.
- Monday - March 27th - The new doctor arrived this evening - ^{Lt} Capt. Andler of the American Army. He has just come from the Philippines. I like him very much so far; he has few medical orders with him. My diarrhoea is rampant again. I love you much more today, darling. God bless you, Helen.
- Tuesday - March 28th - Andler is a Grand chap and we are getting along famously. He hails from Boston but lives in Los Angeles. My Shakespeare arrived from Hoboken and I am in heaven again! We think the war will end in about 6 months time - pray God it will be so. God bless you Helen.
- Wednesday - March 29th - My darling, I have a grand photograph of the officer now. I came out rather well - in fact the best of all. I am busy these days as Doctor Andler is only an on-looker as yet. He is quite horrified at some things here. Twenty men beaten last night. God bless you Helen.
- Thursday - March 30th - A quiet day of Spring with little work. I am liking Andler more every day. My pneumonia case is doing very well thank God. Food remains excellent but no sugar recently nor sautees. I am reading Shakespeare's Sonnets these days and I love you. God bless you Helen.
- Friday - March 31st - Another month nearer, darling, and the rumours are good. I had a weird dream last night about Jerry - he was stoutly defending me to some Irish friends who were annoyed at me being in the British Army! Andler had some fever today but is better now. God bless you, Helen.
- Saturday - April 1st - Tomorrow is Yacume Day and I still adore you, my Helen. Andler still has fever but will not stay in bed. I am reading "The Measure of Unity" by Robert Keble. Oh my own darling how busy you must be of waiting for me and the end of the war. God bless you, Helen darling.
- Sunday - April 2nd (Palm Sunday) - A very busy day, my darling. Big sick parades, an operation on a Capt (very successful), hospital concert - I sang the "Mountains of Moave"; a bath, prayers at 4 P.M. etc. Andler is still in bed. I lent him my mattress and hot water bottle. I like him more every day. Three National Anthems after the concert today! I do love you so very much, Helen. God bless you.

Monday - April 3rd :- Springtime in Japan - a heavy fall of snow last night! I am kept busy as many of the men are ill with the changing weather. Andler is a little better tonight - I am his nurse, though not a very attractive one! I have been day dreaming all day about you. God bless you.

Tuesday - April 4th :- My darling, I am still loving you more and more every day. How can I ever match my love with yours or love you enough; how can I ever expect to deserve a good wife like you, Helen? I shall try hard enough please God. Andler is not much better. God bless you, darling.

Wednesday - April 5th :- My darling, I have missed you terribly today. Oh Helen my heart is breaking for love of you and what you might be suffering too. How can I ever make this up to you. Andler still has fever and I am still nursing him. I shall always love you. God bless you Helen.

Thursday - April 6th :- My darling, I am now reading "Romeo and Juliet" - and I love you more than ever Romeo could have loved Juliet! Paddy is still a jewel - has made me a pipe rack today and his post card. I am sending you another card in a day or two. Andler still in bed. God bless you, Helen.

Friday - April 7th :- Good Friday and we had a large crowd in our chapel this evening after work. I read the Passion for the Lads, said the Rosary and prayer for peace followed by kissing the cross. Andler is no better. The Commandant blames me for his illness. Some Red Cross food came today. God bless you.

Saturday - April 8th :- Lent is over at last and really it has passed quickly. I intend having a fiesta tomorrow - coffee, milk, sugar, bread, butter, jam, Spam, corned pork etc. Amidst you Helen? I sent your card off today. Oh Helen I do love you with all my heart. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - April 9th (Easter Sunday) :- My darling, it has not been a happy Easter and Ireland is my sorrow at this time. They have been given an ultimatum and all are standing to. I am also worried about Mura and Anne in Dublin. I did not have a big fiesta. God bless you Helen.

Monday - April 10th :- Oh, what an hectic Monday to spend! I have had trouble with the powers that be over the thermometer this morning. I now suspect Andler of Typhoid and I am his nurse all day long. Many complaints about food distribution so I am taking charge of the cookhouse. I am the Commanding Officer of the camp, of the hospital, and the cookhouse! Love you. God bless you Helen.

- Tuesday - April 11th : We received our Red Cross parcels today - 4 among 9 men! I was lucky in the draw for coffee and lots of butter. Rumours of bread every day. I am reading a thriller. Andie is much better. He wants us to visit him in the U.S.A. I adore you. God bless you, Cileen.
- Wednesday - April 12th : I have been walking on air today for some reason. I am very optimistic about a speedy end to the war and back home to you before Christmas. Andie is O.K. again. I was told by Sgt. Evans today that the men inside I am doing a very fine job of work here. Two extra letters this evening and an ear syringed etc. How I do love you so very much now, Cileen. God bless you.
- Thursday - April 13th : Coffee, milk and sugar t.d.s.! I am still happy my darling and I shall love you for ever and ever. New camp regulations - Yasmine's 3 times a month, music every night, bread every other. Paddy is a jewel these days, he is grand fun. God bless you Cileen.
- Friday - April 14th : The sun shines all day long now and summer will soon be here. Still having fiestas. Oh my darling, I feel so much nearer to you these days - we shall meet soon again please God. My health is good again. Andie and I get on well together. God bless you.
- Saturday - April 15th : We had to turn out this afternoon and shovel stones with the Upper Shoko - it was grand fun. One of our men was thrown out of hospital today - he has severe rectal haemorrhage. Oh the ignominy of it all and the helplessness. Thank God for your love. God bless you, Cileen.
- Sunday - April 16th : A Yasmine day and our first sleep-in till 7am! Bread, butter, jam, and meat stew for supper & coffee and milk. We had prayers as usual in our chapel. I am using ^{awful book!} Andie more and more each day - we get on well together. Am reading "Dirty Dunsin". God bless you.
- Monday - April 17th : I am reading Galsworthy's "The End of the Chapter" - three stories in one book of 960 pages. The weather has been glorious and keeps me optimistic. We have bread every other day now. Little work to do and plenty of time. I am the new P.T. leader at 9am. God bless you.
- Tuesday - April 18th : My darling, how I have longed for you this day and how I have loved you with all my heart and soul. My Cileen, I shall love you forever and ever. Lovely weather. I did some gardening in the afternoon. Pray hard for me as I do for you. God bless you, Cileen.

Wednesday - April 19th :- Another glorious day and I am still sane in my frozen camp. If you could see these poor creatures dragging weary loads back from work every evening, weak and half starved, you would be heart broken. My job is so futile. I had a long chat with Jardine (my TB case) - we talked of Kanger, Badlingford Kanger etc. He is a grand chap - such pluck. God bless you, Celine.

Thursday - April 20th :- A man broke a collar bone at work today and I fixed it up with little Analer's assistance. The Japanese were very impressed. I do miss my freedom in such wonderful weather. I want to walk with you over the green hills and moors of Ireland. God bless you.

Friday - April 21st :- I have a bad cold and diarrhoea but not too bad. However I am in very good spirits nowadays. Analer and I are fast friends - he is invaluable to me here. Sgt. Perrin R.A.M.C. was sent to work because he broke 2 thermometers. God bless you.

Saturday - April 22nd :- My darling, you should see the lovely pictures that Paddy has put up in my room today. You and I can never thank him enough for what he has done for me - I am like his son! I had a lovely dream of you last night, Celine. God bless you darling.

Sunday - April 23rd :- A glorious quiet day and we are in good spirits still. I have still my hunch that the war will be over at the end of this year. I am still reading Galenworthy and loving it. And I am still loving you with all the love of my heart, and soul and being. God bless you, Celine.

Monday - April 24th :- Another day gone and another day nearer to you my darling. I have been descending Dublin and Ireland to Analer today. He would dearly love to see it all. We may see him in the U.S.A. when we visit it, Celine. How I do love you, Celine. God bless you darling.

Tuesday - April 25th :- My darling, it has been a weird day for us. It was a Japanese holiday. We had cigarettes and biscuits. Analer, Wynd, and I had coffee and toast with Asari Junso tonight after supper. I am reading "If Winter Comes". I shall always love you. God bless you, Celine.

Wednesday - April 26th :- Time is passing quickly and thank God it is bringing us closer together. May it please Him to bring us together soon again. I have had a very busy day, rained without ceasing and the men were wet through. My darling, I just cannot love you any more than I do tonight. God bless you, Celine.

Thursday - April 27th : My darling, lots of business today as the Emperor's Birthday approaches. I am still in good spirits thank God. And I still love you with everything that is within my heart and soul. We had a shot putting contest - America, Japan, Java, Holland, England & Ireland. I was for Ireland!

Friday - April 28th : We heard a rumour of the second front today but it is not true! How I wish it would come soon and end this horrible war and bring us together again. We had a half-hour's sun this morning outside camp and I did enjoy it. I love you. God bless you, Celen.

Saturday - April 29th : The Emperor's Birthday; grand parade in the morning - I read the Commandant's speech to the men; I sang "Father O'Higgins" at a terrific concert. We had Hawaiian music and Kula Kula a girls dancing etc! We had rosary at 4 P.M. And I adore you, Celen. God bless you.

Sunday - April 30th : My darling, I spent the whole forenoon in the country digging up a field with Anders and Wynn and 10 men + Japanese. We had a glorious view from our hillock; roasted potatoes helped a lot! And now I am pleasantly tired and resting in bed. God bless you Celen.

Monday - May 1st : Another holiday today, Celen. I have had such sweet day dreams of you all day. I read your fine letter yet once more and I love you as much as you love me. Nothing can ever change our love, darling. It will last forever. God bless you, Celen.

Tuesday - May 2nd : The High Commandant from Hakodate is here now; is interviewing every man in camp and granting all requests. New orders have been issued and I, a Major in the R.A.M. am not obliged to salute anyone in camp. I shall love you always Celen. God bless you, darling.

Wednesday - May 3rd : My darling, the camp is being gradually transformed into a place of learning. The High Commandant is a dynamic force in this place and makes things happen at high speed. I shall always remember these days. I feel so very much more near freedom now. God bless you, Celen.

Thursday - May 4th : The camp is still changing its face as the days speed by. All men are to have sugar ration soon. My darling, I love and adore you this night. God bless you.

Friday - May 5th : I had a shot with the camp high Commander. He was very pleasant. Another death today (Quastman) - he wanted to die. I shall always love you, Celen. God bless you.

Saturday - May 6th - I have had a terrific day; funeral in the afternoon; Spectacle parade in the evening. I didn't finish work until 9 p.m. to night. But I do love you and pray for you every day and night of my life. Oh my Celine when will it all end. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - May 7th :- My own darling, how are you today? I am so sure that we shall meet soon again - before the end of the year all will be over please God. We received American Red Cross Medicines and toiletries today. The Medicines were wonderful if we can keep them. God bless you Celine.

Monday - May 8th (Charlie's Birthday R.I.P.) :- We had a hectic day. Interviewed by the high Commandant for 3 hours; we had a marvellous time. His tour ended with a grand concert in the evening in honour of our guest. I sang. At the end I made a speech of thanks! God bless you.

Tuesday - May 9th :- A quiet day, thank God. The Commandant went back to Hakodate this morning. All the men have Spectacles now; dental repairs and fittings daily. Oh how I love you and need you to myself. I can never love you enough, my Celine. I would die for you. God bless you.

Wednesday - May 10th :- My darling, the camp is a happier place these days and it has made me happier too. I can never be happy really until we meet again, Celine. How I shall love and adore you for the rest of my life. Our home will be so happy. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - May 11th :- A very hectic Gasume day for me. I have been working till 8 p.m. to night - and I have accomplished some things at least. A concert in the hospital this evening - Audler and I went along to it. Prayers this evening; a guard prevented arms at the door. God bless you.

Friday - May 12th :- Officers were issued with 5 U.S. blankets today. We were also given the Y.M.C.A. radio for music in the evenings! I had a try at real baseball today with Audler and was a great success. I remember a game on Kanagawa strand with you unlooking! God bless you.

Saturday - May 13th :- We had an inspection today by an officer from Tokyo Bureau. Had a good try out again with Doc Audler and Muthonyzi at baseball. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - May 14th A quiet day with some baseball in the warm Spring sunshine. The Stones were removed today but we don't miss them at all. I love you more and more. God bless you.

- Monday - May 15th :- I had another lovely dream about you, my darling, last night. We were nearer together than ever before. Oh my darling, our love will last for ever and ever. Wars cannot change us. I had football and baseball this afternoon with Rivate, Andler, and the orderlies. God bless you, Celee.
- Tuesday - May 16th :- My darling, I had a marvellous afternoon playing American football. I found that I could catch the ball in grand style and throw it better than the Americans! The good weather makes me much happier. Andler and I are fast friends nowadays. How you. God bless you Celee.
- Wednesday - May 17th :- Oh my darling, I had my happiest dream about you last night. I was happy even when I awoke to find it all a dream. No games today; no sunshine, I am so pleased with the camp nowadays, the men are happy and contented. God bless you Celee.
- Thursday - May 18th ^{Ascension} :- Rained all day and very cold - no shoes; wrapped in blankets all the afternoon. Still I am wonderfully happy under these circumstances; but how I long to see you again and put my arms around you and tell you of my love. God bless you, Celee.
- Friday - May 19th :- More rain and cold today. I am reading "The Four Graces" by Fickensel Crumpton - it's a poor book. It was so cold today that I had to go to bed in the afternoon! Oh my darling, when will it all end? When will the second front come - if ever? God bless you, Celee.
- Saturday - May 20th :- Lantern today of biscuits, apples, cigarettes, and matches! Weather is dreary and cold but my love for you, Celee, could not be warmer. I am yours forever and ever and I can never change no matter what happens to me. Do you really love me so much or is it a dream? God bless you.
- Sunday - May 21st (Yasume Day) :- I have just returned from a wonderful concert. There was a skit in it about me and Doctor Andler! It was a busy day with pay and vitamins and prayers. But I had time to think of you and dream of you darling. God bless you Celee.
- Monday - May 22nd :- My T.B. patient, Jordine, died today and it was a happy release after 6 months in bed with fever every day. We gave him everything but without success. God bless you, darling.
- Tuesday - May 23rd :- A marvellous game of football today with Andler, two Japanese Sergeants and American and British troops! It was a mixture of Rugby and American foot ball. I adore you. God bless you darling.

Wednesday - May 24th :- I had a glorious walk today in the hills and woods outside Anurao. It was a cloudless day and the Sun was warm. We had a picnic in the woods! We had two Japanese privates (unarmed), Lutter, Matuzoyzi, Buffat, Krayer, and I in the party. We were free for 6 hours. What a glorious view we had of the Pacific and the Volcanoes on the other side of Volcano Bay. How I longed for you and wanted you today, Celeste. I had a quiet look at your snap occasionally. Some boys had cables from home today via Vatican. God bless you.

Thursday - May 25th :- A glorious day with two hours real baseball in the afternoon. I was as good as the best American! I have heard the cuckoo every day for the first 10 days but today I saw it for the first time. We have bread daily now. I love you even more today. God bless you, Celeste.

Friday - May 26th :- A hundred men will be going to Yakumo soon and I am dreading being sent there again in spite of its beautiful surroundings! I had a good round of baseball in the afternoon with Matuzoyzi and Funicane. Oh how I have missed you today, Celeste. God bless you.

Saturday - May 27th :- May has nearly ended and no second fruit has come yet! No games today. I had a minor operation in the afternoon. A main toe was almost cut off with pig iron and I managed to sew it on again with Audler's help. How you darling. God bless you.

Sunday - May 28th :- My darling, we had apples and biscuits today. I asked the Japanese Officer today not to be sent to Yakumo, with a similar request for Audler. Capt. Brown an American dentist is due here in 10th office to stay for 2 months. God bless you, Celeste.

Monday - May 29th :- My darling, I had a dream about my relation in Deary last night. It has been a boring day - I even slept for two hours this ^{afternoon} ~~evening~~. I am very likely to be sent to Yakumo next month. Oh how I wish the war would end soon. God bless you, Celeste.

Tuesday - May 30th :- I have been happy today. My friendship with Audler now means a lot to me. We have grand fun together. We laugh at life. I love you. God bless you, Celeste.

Wednesday - May 31st :- A busy day with work and play and pray, but I have never loved you as I did this day. No second fruit yet. I am yours forever. God bless you darling.

Yasume

Thursday - June 1st :- My own darling, how I have loved you this day with all my heart and soul; and how I have missed you too. We had a wonderful all-British programme at the hospital concert to night. Our football team beat the Dutch 5-3! ^{Japanese} Scout came at 4.15 pm. God bless you.

Friday - June 2nd :- How I have wanted you to stay, Eileen, as never before. How I long to see you again and tell you everything about my love for you - or could words mean anything? I am eating bread and an apple sitting in my bed sending this to you. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - June 3rd :- We had biscuits, cigarettes, and matches for lantern to day. It has been a very ordinary day with clouds and rain. The hill above the camp is now a mass of brilliant green foliage and cherry blossom + azaleas. I am reading *Saints Progress* (Goldswordley). God bless you, darling.

Sunday - June 4th :- Eileen, my own darling, I do love you so very much to night. It is 8.15 and I am already in bed! I do miss you more and more as the days go by, Eileen. I could never love anyone but you and oh what a fool I have been to leave you. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - June 5th :- I had my photograph taken today sitting between Wynne and Anthea. Every man in camp is having his photo given to him! We don't quite know why! Oh my darling, I love you so very much to night that I cannot tell you about it. God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - June 6th :- I had two wonderful hours of baseball this afternoon with Anthea and Anathuozji. I used the bat as a bushing stick! A glorious moonlight night. Many letters are at Wakodate for us. Oh my darling, this awful writing is terrible. God bless you, Eileen.
on 2nd ward under!

Wednesday - June 7th :- Do you realize, young woman, that there are 14 letters in this camp for me - how I hope they are from you my darling. I can hardly wait till they are postmarked! I am walking on air since I heard about it. How I do love you, Eileen. God bless you.

Thursday - June 8th :- An 2nd ward must be a terrific affair; everyone is happy about it. It has rained all day. There are now 20 letters for me but heaven knows when they will reach me. How I thank God for the wonderful news of letters and An 2nd ward. I may be home for Christmas yet, darling. I shall always love you. God bless you.

Friday - June 9th :- My darling, it will take months to censor all the letters in camp - they are being done alphabetically! The 2nd is doing well. A glorious day with some volley ball in the afternoon. There is now no danger of a nose from here for me. I am glad. God bless you, Helen.

Saturday - June 10th :- Lantern of cigarettes and soap! There is a scheme afoot to make small cakes in camp. I had a busy day. I put the 8lb. shot 51 feet today; Aukler did 40 ft. The Volley Ball pitch is now ready. I paid the men to night. I adore you. God bless you darling.

Sunday - June 11th (Yasume) :- I have just returned from a terrific show "Mairie Place" produced by Wynd and the boys. There were chorus girls, Tango dancers, and an Eastern beauty! I am in love with them all. Yet I love you above all else in this world. God bless you.

Monday - June 12th :- We started table tennis today and I beat Aukler 8 games to 1! The Japanese officers played a few games too. A glorious day but I was busy. Some letters were given out to night. They will not be censored alphabetically now. God bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - June 13th :- No letters received so yet but oh how I am longing for them to be censored. You can never know what they mean to me just now. Every Sunday will be a Yasume Day in future! The 2nd front is going very slowly. I love you, Helen. God bless you.

Wednesday - June 14th :- No letters yet and nothing exciting today. Had a good try out with the shot in the afternoon and did my usual 51 feet. I have great fun in the evenings going my rounds of the groups; the men like it. Now I do adore you to night, darling. God bless you.

Thursday - June 15th :- It has rained all day long and still I love you as never before. No letters issued at all today! 400 have been censored but only about 90 given out. I want to do something about it all, but am powerless. God bless you, darling.

Friday - June 16th :- My darling, how I am longing with all my heart and soul for news of you and all at home. Some letters doled out today. I shall always love you. God bless you.

Saturday - June 17th :- I have seen my photograph today and it's a shocker! No letters and no news. The suspense is awful. The Tokio party leaves on Monday. God bless you, Helen.

Sunday - June 18th (Assume) - My usual hectic day running around. Had several games of volley ball. One man had a bad fracture of his arm at football. Audler gave him an Anæsthetic and I reduced the fracture; it was a good job! I am reading "Hanganan's House". God bless you.

Monday - June 19th - My darling, it has been a glorious day. 19 British and 30 Dutch troops left at 6 am for the other island. An American doctor from Hakodate is joining them. Two regts of the American dentist left. I am in love with Hanganan's House. I shall love you forever. God bless you.

Tuesday - June 20th - Audler and I had a terrific workout at baseball this afternoon. Temperature is now 75° F. What a glorious night with millions of stars above. Venus away in the west made me think of you and home. I have longed for you to day as never before. God bless you Helen.

Wednesday - June 21st - I am reading "Without my Cloak" (Kate O'Brien). It is now well past 10 p.m. and oh I have had a hectic day with all the groups being changed around. I am still longing for another letter darling and oh how I do love and adore you, Helen. God bless you.

Thursday - June 22nd - Pay day and as usual I am broke! Darling, you will have to take care of all our money matters when we are married. Do you mind changing your name to Murray? Oh Helen, what happiness awaits us. Capt. Brown is due here tomorrow. God bless you, Helen.

Friday - June 23rd - Capt. Brown arrived today. He is half Irish American! Low set, broad, and dark, he is a very nice chap. I had a letter from Capt. Maloney and he sent \$10 for the sick in the camp. He was very complimentary in the note. How you. God bless you.

Saturday - June 24th - My darling, we had a walk today with the Japanese doctor - it was grand and we have been promised a weekly walk from now onwards! Capt. Brown has settled down here and he loves Murray - much better than Hakodate. I adore you, Helen. God bless you.

Sunday - June 25th - What a hectic day it has been. Volley ball; ping pong; concert; prayer; pick parades. Audler, Brown, and I are great pals already. I love you. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - June 26th - My darling rain all day and bad lunches, but I am not in bed. Cornidge and Sugar + toast and sugar every night with Wynne, Audler and Brown. God bless you Helen.

Tuesday - June 27th - The High Commandant came from Hakodate today and saw us in interview. He brought me a letter from Fr. O'Keefe; he is trying to leave but my baggage is much better than God. Summer has come at last! God bless you.

Wednesday - June 28th - My darling, we are very optimistic nowadays about the war being over in the very near future. Still longing for your letters; very few are being censored daily. Terribly hot today and my back still aches. My heart aches even ^{more} for love of you. God bless you.

Thursday - June 29th - We had a 3 hour session with the Colonel this morning. I asked for Catholic prayer books and Gramophones + records! He has now gone back to Hakodate. The weather is glorious and everyone is optimistic. I shall always love you, Celine. God bless you.

Friday - June 30th - My darling, I was in the Japanese office this morning and saw one of your letters to me! It had just been censored, but heaven knows when it will reach me. It has been a dull day. Oh Celine, my darling, surely it must end soon. God bless you.

Saturday - July 1st 30th - French activity to dig air raid trenches all over the camp today. Things must be happening nearby! A glorious night with a bright moon above. Oh my darling, what years of love are slipping by us both. I must see you soon. God bless you, Celine.

Sunday - July 2nd - My darling, I sent cards to father and Jerry today. Maybe they will reach home before the end of the war! Oh, my dearest one, how I would cry when I think of what suffering I am causing you. Andler had a birthday party to night, - bully sandwiches! God bless you.

Monday - July 3rd - I had a glorious walk in the afternoon with Andler, Brown, Wyard, and Medical orderlies. We spent an hour by the sea. I longed for a ship to sail away home to you, Celine. Broke my watch yesterday. Finished reading "Surgeon's Log". No letters. God bless you.

Tuesday - July 4th - Oh, my darling, I am so very happy today. I have heard that two air mail post cards have arrived in camp today for me - one from you and one from the O'Keefe family; they were dated April 1944! Oh darling Celine, you can never know the happiness that this has brought to me. I cannot ever thank you and God enough. God bless you, Celine.

- Wednesday - July 5th - Tonight I received air mail post cards! One from you, father, daddy
 your family Felix, and Father Joe. Oh my own darling I am so happy and relieved to know that
 you are all well and still love me. How can I ever love you enough, Celen. You have all my
 love and all of me forever and ever - that's all I can offer you. I am not so worried now.
 I had some shot putting (48 feet) and baseball in the afternoon with Andrew & Brown. God bless you
- Thursday - July 6th - Your cards arrived last night a few moments after we had started in
 our first day of the novena to Our Lady of Fatima for a "speedy peace and reunion with our
 dear ones". Twenty days are doing it with me. What comfort and joy these cards are to me.
 Oh my darling, surely God will end this war soon. I adore you to night. God bless you, Celen.
- Friday - July 7th - Do you realize, darling, how happy we shall be when we meet again. All
 this messy will be long forgotten in a short time. Would you like to settle in Brashnick
 as Felix hinted? You can never know what it means to me to have real friends in your spirit. God
- Saturday - July 8th - My man Paddy, had his first letter from home today. He was very
 thrilled about it. Your 20 odd letters have not reached me yet. However the cards are much
 more up to date and I can wait. No excitement today. I love you more today. God bless you, Celen.
- Sunday - July 9th - And now today I could have cried my eyes out with longing for you, my
 darling. Maybe we are too much in love and so we are paying the penalty; but, Celen, it is the
 only way to love as we do because our happiness will be all the greater. Football, concert,
 boxing, long jumping, prayers, bath, biscuits, bread, toast butter & sugar! God bless you, darling.
- Monday - July 10th - My darling, we had our weekly walk by the sea today and a swim!
 We had two hours of glorious sunshine, sunbathing, singing etc.. The natives thought we had
 gone nuts! Oh Celen how I do love you every moment of every day. God bless you, darling.
- Tuesday - July 11th - A big earth tremor last night. Yesterday, I had 3 big successes with
 Kumbhar punches - got in first time. Digging air raid trenches all afternoon. No letters
 from you yet, Celen. Paddy had one from his wife today. Do you still love me. God bless you
 later darling

Wednesday - July 12th :- Another Twelfth away from my Orange brethren! It has been a glorious day. One of the men (Grant) got into trouble because he was accused of attempting to strike a guard! I had much worry about it. Our movie continues. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - July 13th :- My own darling, I am so very happy to night. I received your January 17th letter (1943). It is all so strange reading about your new work because I have no idea in the world what it may be. Thank God you have found something to pass the time away. Oh my dearest Eileen how little I deserve your love and devotion - imagine you putting every week to me! I am glad you still visit Beechwood and find them all well. Billy McQuilley was not taken prisoner, nor was he ever heard of in Singapore. Our movie finished to night and I am expecting big things. God bless you always, darling.

Friday - July 14th :- My darling, I have been reading your letter all day long and I love it more and more. Imagine Frances having a baby! How I wish I could see it all. There was a big parade this evening and I read out a pep talk to the men. Oh what trips it all was. I am sending a barren card to father about my Red Cross number today and am not allowed to write any personal stuff - so don't be angry. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - July 15th :- It has rained the whole day though but it has not made me sad. I can never really be miserable as long as I have your love and God's grace to sustain me. I never try to think about my day of liberation - it will not bear thinking about, it's so terrific. We know that Japan will never fight to a finish because our treatment has improved so much. We even think that the war will be over here before the European show. God grant it. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - July 16th :- Another Yama day is ended thank God. Very many of the men have got diarrhoea again. Concert in the hospital and boxing in the afternoon. Managed some staff baseball with Andler this evening. I had my usual day dream of you. God bless you.

Monday - July 17th :- My darling, I had your March 30th 1943 letter this evening and oh how happy I am this moment. It is you and only you can give me happiness.

Monday - July 17th (Contd): - I am glad in a way that your letters are being doled out - so that I can have a new thrill of joy about once a week. You seemed very depressed in your letter and I don't blame you a bit. You must be fed up waiting for worthless me. I dare not let my depression settle on me because so much depends upon my cheerfulness with the men here. I have no idea what your job has been, though I gathered that you gave it up and went back to Omagh. I would have advised the same. We had a walk today and Anabel and I walked at the head of the column. All the Japanese girls trade eyes at us - are you very pale, Eileen? Anabel, Brown, and I are very close friends now. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - July 18th - My darling, I have been thinking today that this long letter will be very boring for you to read - I just tell you each day that I love you and ask God to bless you. And now I am going to write more in future - the paper will come from somewhere! It is a hot summer's night in the prison camp and I have just killed 6 fleas - which I always collect for my wounds of the troops in the evenings! In Malaya there were bugs; in Japan lice in blankets and fleas in summer! I am sitting inside my mosquito net scantily attired, listening to the rumble of the local factory, the croaking of frogs from the surrounding swamp, and the buzzing of mosquitoes. Last night there was a terrific thunderstorm which lasted for hours. Today we were ordered to weed the garden which was duly completed in 10 minutes. In the afternoon I read all of your letters again, looked at your snaps and had my day dreams. Last night I had my most vivid dream ever about you darling. I had just returned home and we were walking along Arm in Arm and you were smiling up at me. We were so very, very happy together. I can still see your smile. This evening after supper I sat outside and looked up at my Green hill, but my thoughts were away beyond it across Hokkaido to Vladivostok, across the Siberian wastes to you in Ireland and I found myself in Dunegal again with you. All the old scenes came back again and I sang the Gaelic songs of those days. I wanted to live them all again and not waste a precious moment of our youths.

If I had been guessed that you loved me we would have been married happily in Ireland; but trusting, this way is God's way and maybe I am now more worthy of your love than several years ago. It is not too late for happiness we have a whole lifetime ahead of us yet, Celeen. We love each other as two people have never loved before; we shall always have each other and see home; and with God's grace and the help of His most Holy Mother we shall weather the storm. We shall be happy in our love, our home life, our work, our friends and relatives, our holy faith, our children, our holidays, our laugh songs and everything that we do or say or think. Crosses will come but they will be nothing to us - we have suffered through our separation but the joy of our reunion will more than compensate for everything. It is foolish to attempt to tell you how much I love you, Celeen - I just know that you feel how deep and true my love for you is. God bless you.

Wednesday - July 19th - And now my darling, it is a dull afternoon and I am kneeling at my table before the little statue of the Sacred Heart, on either side of which are small vases of marigolds and clover; you and Jonie (R.I.P.) and Una look out at me from your pictures. Darling though I am happy in a way because of our love and God, yet I am miserable always. You and God are ever by my side to keep my spirits up, but prison life becomes unbearable at times. I do not worry for myself but my heart bleeds for the men; the work is so very heavy, the food is deteriorating, and so many of them are weak with diarrhoea. I fear that many will die before we are set free from here. They will die next winter. Now I pray to God to deliver us before then. Still the Shoko screams at me to produce more workers. So each morning I have to sort out the very sick men from the sick and keep them only in camp. The men who are sent out do not bless me but I have my duty to the Remiss Cases. The Dutch officers are a queer lot - the least queer being the doctor. They are slowly starving Wymul, Anker, Brown, and I mad. Their verbosity (in Dutch) is terrific, besides being rude, but we never complain. Boski has broken off relations with me and does not eat with us

Wednesday, July 18th - but confines himself to his room all day! - much to our amusement
 and delight! He is an old man of 49. It all began last Sunday when I refused to allow our
 football team to play against his owing to bad weather - (the men wear rubber soled slippers).
 So he has forbidden all Dutchmen (Javanese) to play any games with the British! They are not
 even allowed to be in the next concert with our chaps! Oh it is all so silly and childish.
 You have no idea how men can act in prisons - of - two camps. Andler, Brown, and I
 appear quite normal to each other but we are beginning to wonder if we are queer too??
 Then Jongsma will beat his chest and say "Oh! if I could only fly and fight again and
 bomb and machine-gun those!" And we smile through it all; and when he has gone we pray
 that the Yanks and Kents will come soon! Yet I find prison life teaches me a wonderful self-
 restraint. One cannot sword people one does not care for - one has to stand one's ground,
 live with these people and be pleasant to them. Anson and Margaret used tell me how trying
 convent life was living with so many nuns of different temperaments and now I know all
 about it. I have to keep the peace almost to the point of sacrificing honour and then I begin
 to crack and become very, very hard on the other person. Andler, Brown, and I never allow the
 troops to come to our rooms - we know it is bad for discipline; the others ignore this golden
 rule and so they neither have respect nor discipline from the men. This is a wonderful
 camp for officers, but it is a hell camp for the men. Why do I worry you with these little
 details, my darling? Why do they worry me, when I have so many things to be happy about?
 Oh! how the war drags on and on; it seems like an eternity since I left home in 1939, and
 what precious years of our lives have been wasted. And yet I can see the hand of God in it
 all; He has shown me a philosophy of life which I have never known before. I have lost a lot
 in medical experience but gained a lot of experience about men and women and life.
 I have learned to appreciate, really and truly appreciate, home, our love, God, our religion, and
 the things of life that matter. I have always been contented with little in life and so, my darling,

you can imagine what living with you will mean to me - you who have been my ideal and my idol for so many years now. It will be heaven just to see you again, Cileen. You cannot imagine how flattened I feel at being chosen as your partner for life. All your family are so good and loving and kind to me, even though they have never met me. I shall enter Spring Villa in fear and trembling lest I should disappoint all your dear ones. Thank God they are all alive and spared to you. Oh! that it were all over and we could go off together for a long, long holiday by the sea - away from everything. The agony of POW life is that awful restriction on liberty which chains me down to such a small space with never a view of wide open fields and beach and sea. That awful separation from all those whom we love; that awful daily routine that goes on without ending. Yet as an officer and a doctor I must be always cheerful - it means so much to the morale of the men. Thank God my health is good. Thank you, my darling, for all your prayers and Masses and thank you for having me remembered by Fr. Joe daily in Holy Mass; thank you for all the prayers of your dear ones - Oh! I could spend ages thanking you and it would never be enough. And now I must give you a rest for a while. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - July 20th - Oh, my darling, it is still Wednesday, but I cannot sleep tonight without thanking you for yet another letter (January 1st 1943). I had a great thrill in the few words from Mamma and Maw. The letter is old in date, but it is so young and fresh and full of you, my darling. I do not deserve to have you or your love, Cileen, and how I pray to become more worthy of you. You can never know the joy that a single letter of yours brings to me in my captivity. Imagine you and Mamma visiting Margaret and Mawreen; it all seems such a dream to me. You are doing wonders with our bottom drawers, darling. It will be exciting when we begin comparing our treasures - I have a lot in India. Thank God you have returned to Omagh, I would have advised the same. You poor darling, I have no idea yet what kind of work you were doing in Belfast. You must have been worried about it all.

Good night my darling.

Thursday - July 20th - My darling, it is now 11.15 P.M. and I should be fast asleep in bed, but I have been writing out the letters of the Saints for Michael Kodaques. I have so many of your letters now that I have tied them up in blue ribbon. Oh what a priceless lovely book it makes - the sweetest reading in all the world for me, Celen. A train rushes by in the night and I think of my train journey home to you. I still have that day dream of a train rushing northwards to Liverpool and you and I sitting side by side too full to say a word. I feel it must all end soon, though things seem so very slow in France. We all think it will surely end this year - and so do the Japanese. And now I can hear the rats playing leap-frog in the rafters above! Tomorrow is a Yasume - the factory's anniversary! I wonder shall I be free for our big Anniversary on 29th December 1944? I want so very much to be back again with you and all our dear ones. I am ashamed to write so little to night. Andler had a row with Jungma last night and we write Lutter today! And to think that he used spend his time circulating me! I have changed your Snap in the cigarette case to the more serious one; your smiling one is in the frame on my table. I shall love you forever and ever darling. God bless you, Celen.

Friday - July 21st - My dear darling, what have I ever done to deserve a love like yours? Two more of your letters this afternoon (dated 14th October & Christmas Day 1942). You must love me a terrible lot, Celen; it makes me ashamed of my poor efforts at loving you. Imagine writing to me on such a day as Christmas when you were surrounded by all your dear ones (14 of them). How on earth can I repay such love? Ah darling you expect too much of me and yet you have all of me and all my love - it will be yours forever and ever. Now I am receiving letters from you almost every other day and how you getting my postcards about once in 6 months. I am ashamed, but you know so well my darling, that you would have a letter every day if it were in my power. I can only wait and send you this long letter when the war is over. It is now afternoon and I have just returned from the boxing match. There will be a big show to night - "Follies of 1944" - it is all about a cruise to Java. And now it is 10.15 P.M. and I am under my net again to tell you how much

I love you, your letters, and everything about you. If you could but know the solace, the comfort and the happiness that one of your letters brings to me, what a difference it makes to my captivity - then you would never ask me what you should send me. I only want your letters darling, because they bring your heart enclosed each time. I was sorry to hear about Sam's J. Walsh's death (R.I.P.) - he was a great man, a patriot with a broad mind. I remember reading his articles in the Irish Weekly which mother used send me from home. I loved his study of John Mitchell. You are spoiling all my people with so many visits to Beedmore and Crumlin Road Cement; please don't fall in love with Philip!! Our bottom drawer seems to be almost full up; I am dying to hear about our new dinner set. Of all our Christmas presents I do prefer with you Fergus' Sanctuary Lamp. Darling it will always burn before the Sacred Heart in our home, and He will bless us and our love. I performed quite a big operation this morning - removed a large cyst from a man's scalp under local anaesthetic - Ancker refused to do it although he is said to be the surgeon of the lamp. Capt. Brown complimented me on a very neat job. I am telling you of this because I must lay all my successes at your feet. I did not forget to ask God's help before starting on it. The concert tonight was the best ever - Kenneth as a Javanese dancer was superb; de Wilde was a great comedian; the music was a treat. There were many beauties in the cast! I am studying Seculo medicine very hard nowadays. I am yours forever Celia. God bless your darling.

Saturday July 22nd - A man nearly died this morning - he had acute gastro enteritis; however a quick glucose-saline transfusion saved his life. Paddy is off back with bad diarrhoea and Magee (a Liverpool-Irish lad) will be his deputy. I have just finished reading Bugsy Ann an American Story - it's all about a dog. Darling, when are you going to buy our new dog? If you had a small puppy now, he would be just ready for my homecoming. Oh what a dog that will be, Celia. I try daily to imagine it. Sometimes I think I shall surprise you and not tell you of my arrival, but just being home to Belfast and

just drive up to Spring Villa in a taxi some fine morning; or should I wait for you at
 Southampton and see you down there in the waiting crowd. What would you select as
 your Chaplain? Anacrisis or Jo? I think Frances will be too busy. I read all your letters
 through again this afternoon and oh how my heart bleeds for you, Cileen. I know you are
 worried about me and again you do not worry because you have such wonderful faith
 in God. You know and I know that He will bring us together soon again. We have much
 to be thankful for. May He bless you now and bring you peace and joy. Good night Cileen
Sunday, July 23rd - Oh, my own darling, how can I ever thank you enough for 6 wonderful
 letters which I received this evening. Oh Cileen how can I tell you how very happy I am this
 blessed night - coming on top of the fall of tops today, the greatest thing here since the war began.
 The dates were Sept. 22nd, October 2nd & 22nd; Nov. 29th; Dec. 4th; Dec. 21st. Each letter is a
 precious gem to me and I have locked them all away in my heart. I feel that I shall never be able
 to repay you for all this happiness which you have given to me in my captivity. I was so
 excited about your first letter (September) when you had just received word from the War Office
 about my post card. What a relief it must have been to you all. I knew that it would make
 you happy to hear that I was being well treated! That was a brainwave of mine to get the card
 through quickly and it worked. Do you realize that not a man in this camp had a card
 reach home before August 1943! God has been so very very good to us, Cileen, and we can
 never forget his goodness. You and father must have had a wonderful time. You were a
 marvel to spread the good news to all our friends and relatives. Thank God your mind was
 put at rest so soon. Imagine you hearing from Mrs. McLaughlin - heaven alone knows where
 her husband is tonight away in the swamps of Thailand or Burma. Darling, I am not
 as good as Frank Kennedy would make you believe - he had a good for me when I
 was at the Mater. There were 3 famous Franks in vogue then - Kennedy, Duff, and yours
 truly; we all loved our work and made ^a great trio (I the least of the lot!). I

Letters :- June 25
July 184
Aug. 5, 14

Sept. 22
Oct. 2, 14, 22, 36.
Nov. 29

Dec. 4, 14, 21, 25
1943 Jan. 3, 17
March. 31

Postcard 1st April
1944

was not so very happy in those days. My happiest memories were of long walks over the hills with Frank Duff and Violet Benson - the latter was very fond of the three Franks too! I cannot imagine Frances having a baby but she will make a wonderful little mother. Oh if I could only see you all again. Please God it will be soon. She was swept be over in the Far East long before the European War. Thank you, darling, for the wonderful birthday letter which you sent me. You will be a wonderful help to me with your first - aid. I hope you do not give the answers which I got from V.A.D.s when I examined them in First Aid in Rawalpindi! I keep on asking myself over and over again - how can I ever love you enough, Eileen? Darling I am so glad that you are now going to dances - it is so much better for you in every way. Tonight we are all talking of going home via America - maybe you will meet me there darling. You must have had an awful time watching and waiting for news of me, your health was wretched and you were miserable. Thank God that awful period is over for us both; I was worried sick about you, because I knew you would be worrying about me. And now I must say Good night and God bless you, Eileen

Monday, July 24th :- My own darling, the reaction has set in today and I am lonely again and missing you as never before. We had a pleasant walk to the sea shore in the afternoon and oh! how I long with all my heart to sail away on the Pacific to you and leave Eileen. I have had too much time to think today and realise what I am missing when I read your letters all about weddings and babies and happy families. I feel glad that the D'Kane family has been accepted as one of the family. I cannot imagine you becoming a Nunney, but I can see myself becoming an D'Kane! Both of our clans came from Denny originally. I am so very very proud of being Irish. Please note how the poets describe my character on my identification papers "Great faith, but sometimes lack harmony; eager for business but no humor!". How do you like me now? Myself is just "good & cooperative"; Another "kind and prudent". God bless you, my darling.

Tuesday - July 25th - My sun fading, yet another letter from you this evening. It was sent in
 February 10th 1923 and makes another addition to my precious bundle tied in blue. As usual it has
 made me very happy and as usual I am sobered of how much you love me and how little
 my love is compared with yours, Lileen. I wonder what my father would have done without you
 - you have been so good to him in trucking all the way to Beechwood every week. His two big
 problems are very easily answered if I could only send my advice right away. I want him
 to sell the shop immediately and to make his will now - I am willing to be an executor in his
 will. Ours has been a strange romance, as you say, and please God it will turn out better
 than any romance you have ever dreamed of. Our future happiness together does not bear even
 thinking about. It is God's holy will that we should be separated like this and I know it is
 all for the best. For me it has been a cleansing fire which has made my love for you even purer
 and holier than it has ever been before. God knows that my love for you has always been pure and
 holy, something I have always held more sacred than life itself. These years are not really wasted
 Lileen; I have learned so much about happiness and misery; about want and luxury; about
 colossal dinners and banquets in India - and a plate of rice in Japan; I have known the
 extreme heat of India (120°F.) and the extreme cold of Japan (15°F below zero); I have known
 the drought and dust storms of India's plains and the torrential rains of tropical Malaya; I
 have seen the glory of the rising sun in Japan and the beauty of its setting in India and Malaya;
 I have been a glutton and have been hungry; I have loved the freedom of wide open spaces
 and loathed the bondage of a small prison camp; I have seen happy homes like Paul and
 Mary's and also many unhappy homes; I have seen virtue and kindness in the Far East
 and I have seen abominations and cruelty too; I have seen cleanliness and filth; I have
 met heroes and ten times as many cowards (men don't like dying much); I have met
 unselfish men in prison camps and twenty times as many selfish ones; I have known
 good soldiers and officers but twenty times as many bad ones - they were only bad according

to my standards. While men are not fit to live in the Far East, they do some harm than good by their bad example. Maybe I have grown cynical in my old age! A mosquito net is a wonderful thing! - See what I have written telling in my bed 'neath its flowing white protection. Good night my own darling. I adore you. God bless you

Wednesday - July 26th Untold thousands of letters are still pouring into camp - maybe we'll receive them when the war is over. It will all end much quicker in the Far East than anyone in Britain thinks - these people are near the end of their tether! We are making all kinds of plans for going home via America. Maybe I'll meet your relatives there and maybe I'll meet you there and be married to you there. Oh Helen wouldn't it be wonderful if it were all over before Christmas and it is very possible at the rate things are happening out here. All our dreams would be realised. I had a wonderful walk around Dublin with you last night in my dreams - it was so real that I was amazed to wake up and find it all a dream. I could almost cry with disappointment on such occasions, but alas men never cry and maybe it hurts more when one cannot shed a tear. I had two very successful lumbar punctures yesterday morning which I forgot to tell you about. I am now a specialist in this job now! A Red Cross blanket has been stolen and sold outside by one of the men and the Japanese have demanded that it be produced by tomorrow evening or else ---! Oh my darling, this is something which is breaking my heart and I must tell you about it. There has been no mass in camp during the past 6 months - what an awful loss this is to me because I love Mass and Communion above all else in my former life. It has brought such comfort and consolation to me when I was depressed and ill in the past - and now I have only prayer to depend upon. It is so much easier to speak to God when He is in your heart or in the Tabernacle. I feel your prayers and those of all our dear ones at home - I could not do without them. And oh think you picture so very pretty. I shall love you forever and ever. God bless you darling

Thursday - July 27th - Now I am under my Snow White canopy writing to my best girl again
 Can I ever write to you enough? Can I ever love you enough, thank you enough for loving me as
 you do for all your prayers and goodness to me and mine? Can I ever repay you enough for
 everything which you have given me? Darling, yet another letter came this evening (Oct. 29th)
 - my total is now 17 letters and one Air mail card! How can you imagine what prison
 life is like - what it is like to be here and separated from you? May be you have some idea
 of the comfort and happiness your letters bring to me. I was feeling depressed this afternoon
 and so I read through all your letters and the card and lo! and behold! my blues had
 gone and I was happy again. When 90% of the men come and tell me how weak they are and
 how so hungry and what can I say to them except - "It won't be long now". That does not
 give them strength in their legs and fill their stomachs - and it only depresses me to see them
 and hear their tale of woe and feel so helpless. I have had a trying day what with endless
 streams of sick men and the stolen blanket and men eating Dutch stew and groveling
 for Dutch scraps and refuse! And now I am glad to be with my Cileen again and pour
 out all the love of my heart to you. You have always had all of me and you shall
 always have it - forever and ever. Thank God your health is improving and that you are
 taking long walks - I love walking. May God bless you and keep you this night, Cileen

Friday - July 28th - My own darling, I had my precious watch back today complete with
 hands and new leg-wheel. You will love it as much as I do when you see it. Repair cost
 \$7.50. We think the war will be over before the end of the year - soon maybe not to-morrow.
 I am reading a thriller "One Man's Secret" - it's poor stuff. The new Red Cross books have come
 and oh they are good to see. I pray so hard that it will all end soon and I know He will
 answer my prayers and spare Cileen. He will bless our love, our marriage, our home, ourselves
 and our children because we have asked him this favour. I shall love you, Cileen, as long
 as life is within my body and then my love for you will only have begun. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - July 27th :- My darling, things are becoming more and more critical in camp as the days go by; the men are becoming weaker and weaker and I can only stand and wait - it is my sole way of serving. I have got a heart-breaking job to do and not a amiable one. Were it not for your love and prayers and God's help I could never do it. May it please Him to end it all soon. Letters were issued to night but none for me reaching; but I must be patient and not complain - I have had my shoes recently. I am reading Kim just now (one of the new Red Cross books). We have also got Stonewall Jackson this week too. Thank God the men have a rest to-morrow, they need it. We heard the yanks have landed in the north of this island, it is thrilling. My darling, need I tell you that I shall love you no matter how long the war might last. God bless you.

Sunday - July 30th :- This has indeed been a Yacume Day - no games, no concert, nothing but prayers and a bath! Bapt. Brown had short notice to move back to Hakodate early to-morrow morning. I am very sorry he is leaving us, I liked him very much and we got on famously together. His home is in Council Bluffs, Iowa and we are invited to visit him there when we are on our honeymoon! My darling, just think what a honeymoon that will be for us both - a love like ours and so long apart. God bless you, Lillian.

Monday - July 31st :- My darling, another letter this evening from you and dated April 6th 1943. The news was wonderful - you still love me! Thank God you had promised to go back to Omagh again you will be much happier than at your real vacation. I have not yet discovered what you have been working at during all these months. Surely it is not a factory! Mamma was very kind to send me a note too and sign it "mother" - you have no idea how much that means to me. Darling you must have your photograph taken and placed beside mine at Beechwood in the drawing room! I wonder what "Malayan Postscript" is all about. I have finished Kim and am reading Garden of Resurrection (Shenster). I shall love you forever. God bless you Lillian.

Tuesday - August 1st - My darling, your wandering boy to night is now under his white
 flowing canopy writing another bit of love. And oh! how weary the time becomes - waiting and
 waiting for it all to finish. At this moment and always I can never visualize what the end
 will be like - it is too big a thing to think about. How on earth can you think of living with
 me for the rest of your life, Helen. I am an odd person and I will try your patience very
 much at times. I am dull but quixotic; I am generous and mean; I am cruel and kind.
 I am bad and good - but oh! how I do love you with all my heart and soul. Why won't
 you have your photograph taken and stand beside me in the drawing room at Beechwood?
 I am reading "The Master of Yajma" (de la Roche), not bad. I adore you. God bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - August 2nd - My own darling, there have been terrific preparations for our
 raids - complete black outs from now onwards, troops with fixed bayonets marching all
 over the place. We are all terribly excited and are looking forward to the arrival of
 "the boys" overhead. The weather is marvellous by day and lovely moans at night! Three
 more letters given out to night but none from you my dearest one. The Colonel from
 Hakodate is here and is interviewing the lads daily. I still love you. God bless you, Helen.

Thursday - August 3rd - My darling, this has been an eventful day. It began with
 two terrific sick parades followed by Dutch spinal injections. Poor Dr. Luttes was in bad
 form and messed them all up - Anders and I had to do them all between us. Then Luttes
 and I were interviewed by two Japanese press men in the presence of the High
 Commandant. I gave them an earful of woe about the frightful state of the men's
 health (British) about the poor food and the hard work. They were all feesies
 but I had to do my duty. I spoke of the improvements and about the awful
 beatings before the Colonel arrived. It may set me a lot but I had to do it.
 I had a shot putting practice in the afternoon followed by a sunbath. Then came
 a hot and cold shower; sick parades; supper; vitamins; bed. Good night and
 God bless you, Helen.

Friday - August 4th :- The usual black out - guns mounted all over the place - so
hens hopping. There are millions of mosquitoes buzzing around and it is almost
dark, but oh I must tell you how much I love you and yearn for you I
have been busy all day long. I am having a big show down with the Japanese
Colonel tomorrow about the health of the British troops. God Bless you. Pray for me.
I have diarrhoea and stomach pain again - like hundreds of others here. Good night

Saturday - August 5th :- What awful writing I have been doing in the darkness -
and now there is no black-out tonight. Sgt. Newlands, a Hurricane pilot, has made me
a beautiful cherry pipe with his initials in it. He is a nice lad - a New Zealander. We
have had our interview with the Colonel today. I appealed again for the sick and
he insists that no sick or weak men be sent out to work. It was a wonderful
victory for me, no matter what the rest. None of the others said a word to support
me. We can use the ration now as we wish - look them how we like. I now see
how very near ^{to} the end of the war we must be. We had pemmican and sugar two
mornings in succession! And still I have time to love you and adore you. God Bless you

Sunday - August 6th :- Another quiet Yonnie day. No letter tonight because his crash
was too long to issue any. We had a concert this evening at the hospital and it was
a big success. I had a few shot putts this afternoon against some hefty Dutch lads
and I won easily! Listen to my boasting again! The weather continues gloriously fine.
The Japanese are getting ready for one last big push to try and stem the tide against
them. Many of the guards here are being called up again. Please God it will be all
over before the end of the year. Oh how I have loved you and missed you today. God Bless you ^(Eileen)

Monday - August 7th :- More letters tonight but also there were none for me. Poor Wynn
had one from his fiancée to say that she had called it all off! My darling, I should never
blame you for calling things off even now because it has been so long. God Bless you
Not here tonight Eileen.

Tuesday - August 8th :- No letters to night and Oh! I am feeling blue. The news about France came as a great surprise. I pray that nothing will happen to Mattie at La Tour now that Brittany has been cut off. You must be all very anxious about her. Thank God the last stages of the war are now at hand and we'll all be united once again. My darling, that reunion does not bear thinking about - it's too terribly sweet. I dream of it by night and by day. Thank God I have some more letters to come. I have only them and my thoughts, my love, and my God. May He bless you.

Wednesday - August 9th :- We became more and more optimistic as the days go by. These people are scared stiff of air raids while we look forward to them with glee - at least they should know the meaning. God knows that life can be very dull in a prison camp. No letters to night at all and that does not help. Oh! my darling how I have missed you today and Oh! how I have loved you. I have dreams of our first long honeymoon holiday together and the happy life we shall have afterwards. I shall love you always, Eileen, and wish my all. God bless you.

Thursday - August 10th :- I had a wonderful dream about you last night, Eileen. I dreamt about my very brave young brother Philip, a distinguished engineer, about Beechwood, the Mater Hospital and everything you could think of. I am becoming more and more impatient for freedom and home and you, as the days go by. My darling, I never knew that love could cause such pain and suffering as it has brought to us, Eileen. I had a sun bath in the afternoon. Oh if I could only see you just for a moment and tell you all. God bless you.

Friday - August 11th :- Darling, I have started a new scheme - every day I now write down my thoughts "I THOUGHT TO-DAY". It is for you, Eileen, but I am afraid it will bore you stiff. I dreamed about my mother (RIP) last night and it was a lovely dream. Darling, isn't it very wonderful that it should be her dying wish that we should be married; and more wonderful that it should happen so quickly after her death. Oh, how I wish you had known her and Josie and Charlie. The weather has broken at last and rain is beginning, but I love you dearly. God bless you.

Saturday - August 12th : My darling, I was so very disappointed to expect when no letter came for me. I would give anything for a letter in my present mood - not to mention any mood. My thoughts today were about freedom and I have written them all down for you, my own darling, another Sunday is coming and still there is no brass for us here. You alone can understand how much I miss Holy Brass - how much harder it is to bear prison life without it - how much harder it is to bear my separation from you, Celia. Somehow Brass and Holy Communion brought me so very much nearer to you - we had something very precious in common. When I received our dear Lord into my heart I knew that at that same moment He was in your heart too. And just now I have the wonderful news that I am allowed to write you a letter and send you my photograph. Rained all day - but who cares? God bless you, Celia.

Sunday - August 13th : My own darling, we all prayed so very hard for peace today in our little Chapel. We feel that it will be over soon, please God. Weather must be having an awful time just now with the war so near by. I spent a quiet hour in the sunny evening dreaming on my little hillock of grass. We had a wonderful concert with Carmen de Wilde as the star performer. We had pemmican and sugar for supper! And now more dreaming. God bless you.

Monday - August 14th : Darling, I killed a snake this afternoon up on the football pitch. It seemed quite harmless creature and I really felt sorry for its 3 feet of winding muscle. No letters at all this evening. Our garden is beautiful now and I have a constant supply of flowers for my little Sacred Heart statue. We become more and more optimistic as each day dawns - it is always a day nearer to freedom. I have been dreaming of our future home and happiness together. You may think Felix and Numa, Frances and Robana to be very happy, but just wait till we settle down - their bliss will be nothing to ours, Celia. We are so much in love that no two people could ever be so much in love as we are darling; and Oh! to think that our love will grow and ripen with the years that are to come. We shall be more in love when we are old and grey than we are now. God bless you, darling

(The Assumption)

Tuesday - August 15th :- My darling, a glorious day and I have been feeling much better and my blues have gone for another while! I am now reading "Franch's Fortune" (de la Roche). I shall be reading "Dennis" (Boyd) very soon. Now I hope that letter reaches you soon Eileen. I wonder what you will think of my P.O.W. photograph; I took a nap in my blanket coat! Had tomatoes last night! Have been promised lots more to smoke + 2 loaves of bread! Pomade and sugar to soap. You must pity the poor prisoners. I love you. God bless you.

Wednesday - August 16th :- Imagine, five large tomatoes + 2 loaves! Imagine me writing a love letter about food to you, darling! Still it means so much to a P.O.W. in Japan who have boiled rice three times a day for 2½ years! I am in terrific form these days in spite of the tales of love I listen to all day long. You should see my new vases full of flowers (phlox) - Spadley has again been a wonder once again. He insists that I read a dreadful book called "Sweethearts of the Air"! I have been more in love with you today, Eileen, than any man has been in love since the world began. Michael Rodriguez allocated his shoulder this morning at work and I fixed it up again. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - August 17th :- My own darling, we are all in good form nowadays as comes, rice, and tinned have been landed upon. The poor old guys are hard pressed now but I cannot feel very sorry about them. I have been thinking today that I must have a very balanced mind or I would have gone crazy long ago as a doctor in this camp. The sickness rate is colossal at present since a minor epidemic of influenza has broken out. I love you. God bless you. Eileen.

Friday - August 18th :- Darling, the Japanese interpreters told me good news today - that there are many letters still waiting for me! All the officers at Habodate (see phlox) are being sent to an officers' camp down south. They asked for volunteers from here but the only one keen to go is Lutter. There was a heavy south train to night. I am still busy killing fleas! All are talking of home today - even the Japanese. Pray God peace comes soon because my paper is nearly finished. I still dream of Bunderan and Pallybinia with you. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - August 19th :- My darling, I am in grave danger of being sent away south to an officers' camp - all because I have stood up to these people always and always for the cause of the men. I have never turned favour from anyone and never asked a thing for myself or any officer - it was always the men I thought of, especially the weak ones. Now I do not mind going because I have done my job here to the best of my ability and the war will soon be over. I dreamed of Capt. Bradley last night and as he came in the door I said to Auntie "Here comes a real soldier!" We gave a plasma transfusion to Richards, a bad dysentery case today. Darling, I adore you. God bless you.

Sunday - August 20th :- My darling, I love you so very much to night. I have spent a quiet evening with you up in my grassy hillock, pondering what you and all at home were doing; longing to see you and to meet all your people. No word about any move as yet but I expect to hear something tomorrow. We had the usual epistle, gospel, Rosary, prayer for peace, litany, and memorane. Now I wish I could love you even more than I do to night. I shall love you as long as there is life in me and then forever. God bless you.

Monday - August 21st :- Lots of letters to night, but none for me. One man got 19! Paddy got 9 from his wife. Oh my darling, I would give anything for a letter to night but I'll have to be content with reading one of the old ones or then all, some is surrounded and they are in the outskirts fighting. Oh what a terrific bunch of men we have there now. One man said today that the war would be all over in three months from now. If I knew that this were true I would jump for joy. Please God the end will come soon. God bless you.

Tuesday - August 22nd :- My darling, I had a lovely dream about you and Mairiad last night. I was in a bus in Belfast with you both. Mairiad was playing my favourite hornpipe on a piano-accordion! Last night the camp was punished and kept out of bed till 11 P.M. because a blanket was stolen - I had a glorious time sitting dreaming up on my grassy hillock under the stars! Auntie and I had a discussion out today and I won hands down. A glorious day and I adore you Ellen. God bless you

Wednesday - August 23rd :- My darling, Wyea and I have had a summons that either one of us will be leaving soon. We are writing a letter to the Colonel protesting about any move of this kind. It has worried us quite a bit though I am philosophical about it - "if I am sent, then I am sent". I know so well that it will be all over soon and that we will be together again and never be parted. I will always love you, Celine. God bless you.

Thursday - August 24th :- My own darling, I am much happier. Wyea and I had an interview with the commandant and he said there is nothing definite about a move from this camp. I have just spent a pleasant autumn evening up on my hillside, there is a good breeze blowing and Oh! how I longed for a walk. If I were at home now, we should be walking over Cave Hill, with the wind in our faces. Darling, you would love it. The men in camp had decided to protest to the Japanese if Wyea or I were moved! God bless you, Celine.

Friday - August 25th :- Celine, my darling, I have just spent another lovely hour in the cool of the evening with you. It is an ideal night to be out of doors. I prayed so hard to God to bless our love, our marriage, and our home; I asked Him to bless all our dear ones living and dead; I asked Him to send me home to you very soon. Oh my own darling, what a reunion ours will be; what happiness it will bring to us. Good night and God bless you.

Saturday - August 26th (Yasume) :- It has been a terrible day in every way - rained in torrents without ceasing and one of the men died of Dysentery. Only six men turned up to forgers in the afternoon. I have been busy all the day long and depressed too in spite of the terrific tidings. Oh my darling, at long last the end is in sight after five long years of war. Good night and God bless you.

Sunday - August 27th :- My darling my usual hectic day. I have finished reading another volume "Captain Keratic Bombles" (C.S. Forester) - it's a wonderful story of the sea in Napoleon's time. I had a grand discus practice all to myself this afternoon. I am now in good health, thank God. Darling, the end grows nearer and nearer and my longing for you grows more and more each day. I am yours forever and ever. God bless you.

Monday - August 28th - Went to the crematorium today and spent a long time in the temple. You would be fascinated with the golden Buddhas and the eerie atmosphere of the place. The faint aroma of incense; the priests robes etc., were not unlike our own. I had some shot and discs practice in the afternoon. I am actually improving. I have quite a gallery of Japanese kids up in the hill watching me. The officers all heard "Ukatta" each today. God bless you, Celine

Tuesday - August 29th - My darling, I am so very disappointed to night - lots of letters but none came for me. I have been dreaming about India today and all the lovely things I must buy for you should I ever have the chance - a real Sari, a pair of golden Indian slippers with turned toes, Kashmiri silk bed spreads, tea sets, carved work boxes, cigarette boxes, Jade statuettes, Boudhas, cigarette cases etc., etc! I want so much to give you everything that is beautiful for in the East. Had a field day in the afternoon with shot and discs. Dreaming of Bunderwan again with you, Celine. God bless you, darling

Wednesday - August 30th - The crematorium was destroyed by fire yesterday and so we had to collect the body of Richards in a lorry and take it into Bunderwan proper to the crematorium there. Anders and I rode on the tractor with Khatwonggi and Amber. We went all along the coast road and oh it was lovely. We saw an Aime woman on the beach, completely naked to the waist and a huge scar on her torso across her upper leg. We saw signs of murder to the natives in the town. A very striking Buddhist priest met us at the crematorium; he had on a surplice and stole, and had a deep bass voice. There were monks all over the place, sitting in deep meditation on the graves. The crematorium was on top of a little hill that ran steeply down to a pretty little Cove. It was a lovely sight to see the blue Pacific down below us and accompanied by the dull tolling of the temple bell, it was perfect. There were several cremations and monks were chanting all kinds of weird things. Little bowls of rice before each coffin and incense burning all so very custom. Then to see the funny little grone of a man in

in charge of the actual cremation - he was bald, had bleary eyes, and a hoarse voice. He beamed deeply from the lips when we left him. It is quite a big town but nothing in it. They don't have much fun in these parts. It was sad to see a playground full of young boys all dressed in uniform and being regimented at such an early age. It was a wonderful experience. We came back a short cut through the factory - it is a terrific size and does turn out a lot of finished Iron Goods. No letters today. The Colonel is expected to arrive and some Red Cross officials are expected too! I love you still, Celine. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - August 31st - The Colonel did not come but a man from the Swiss Consulate (Ballard) came early this afternoon from Tokyo. He was accompanied by many Japanese officials. He had a sore throat and so I had to see him before the official interview. He was a little fair haired blue eyed, pink faced, bald man dressed in shorts and open shirt; spoke English with a slight foreign accent; very pleasant and took a keen interest in everything. I pruned the camp a lot - accommodation, recreation, hospital, medicines. When asked about the health, I said the health of British troops was very poor indeed; that they did all the hard work etc. When asked about religious services, I said they were unsatisfactory to me and the other Catholics in camp because we have not had a priest in 6 months. He said that was a difficult problem. He said that Red Cross supplies would soon be sent to this camp; also medicines. Another complained about the poor health of British troops, the poor food; he had casually mentioned about boots! I also complained about the men's food, the letters, and postcards. He admired our quarters very much. He has father's name and address and says he will cable a message to him that he has seen me recently well and alive. I adore you. God bless you.

Friday - ^{September} August 1st - I have been shivering all evening; temperature 102° F. So I am in for something to night! I am off to bed early in anticipation. It has been a quiet day after yesterday's hectic time - everyone seems to be in holiday. My darling, I love you to night as you have never been loved before. It will always be the same, Celine. God bless you.

(Anne's Birthday)

Saturday - September 2nd :- Had a terrible night. Sheets and blankets are soaked with perspiration. Just managed to crawl out to the morning sick parade. Then went to bed till 2 P.M. and had more sick parades and hospital rounds. Strangely enough Auntles has the same fever as I have. Paddy pried us with tea all morning. Temperatures now normal thank God, but we feel very weak. I shall love you forever. God bless you.

Sunday - September 3rd :- Yasume Day. Darling this is the 5th Anniversary of the war and it is still going strong in spite of the end being in sight. It has been a busy day. Auntles and I diagnosed and cured three typhus & malarial cases today - two of them were paralysed! Only two more days to the big day and then things will become difficult perhaps for us. I was "in the mat" today because of my remarks to the surgical chap, but I stuck to my guns. We had a glorious concert to night - a tour of the world. Sgt. Hurstley sang for Ireland "Rose of Inver" and "Flannagan's Band". There was a Highland Fling, a Spanish Toreador, a Chinese dance in "Shanghai Rhumba", a Cuban dance, Welsh songs (in Welsh). During the Toreador song I kissed a mango and flung it to Senor de Wilde who went into raptures over it. His bull fight was superb. At the beginning and end of the Highland Fling one of the dancers turned to me and saluted (it is the custom in Scottish regiments). I love you darling now as never before in my life; to night I think I cannot love you any more, but to-morrow will change that as to-morrow always does to our love. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - September 4th :- My darling, this has been a depressing day. Oh! how I have longed for you to come to me in my captivity and yet I know that you are always by my side. How I wanted your comforting words and your arms around me. I spent an hour of this misty September afternoon with you in solitude in my hall overlooking the town and I was so very near to you. There are difficult days ahead and I am worried about the men and wondering will my health get better than it is now. One man got 26 letters to night and I got none, but that is an honour to be punished by the Japanese in this way. Oh! how I do love you. God bless you.
Eileen darling

Tuesday - September 5th :- Oh! what a day. Andler and I have spent two hours since 8 P.M. in another hysterical paralysis case (Price) and we are exhausted. The man is able to walk now! Darling, I had a wonderful day dream about you up on my grassy hilltop. I dreamed of my homecoming; I saw every bit of my journey from the boat to Spring Villes where I took you by surprise; I saw lovely walks among the hills; I saw a holiday together at Bindon in spite of your advocating Kellough! And now this evening British are in moons and it will all be over soon. Darling, all our dreams will really soon come true. God bless you, dearest Celine.

Wednesday - September 6th :- My own darling, I had my happiest dream about you yet last night. I dreamed that we were married and at home together and oh! so wonderfully happy. It has been another rainy day and another paralysis case, which we speedily cured. I am reading "Five Harbours" by Van Dyke Wason (American). Another disappointment tonight - No letter and not a line for me. We have had secret information that the Japanese doctor is due to-morrow on a surprise visit. I shall love you always, Celine. God bless you.

Thursday - September 7th :- My darling, I am still dreaming of you and still loving you with all my heart and soul. I shall love you, Celine, forever and ever and nothing can ever or shall ever change me. The doctor came from Hakodate today and upset our apple cart a bit. I said that there would be many more deaths in this camp and I would not be responsible when the men were asked to do such heavy work, on poor food, and being so weak. My darling, I shall be sending you and father a postcard each to-morrow. Please God the war will be over soon. God bless you.

Friday - September 8th :- My own darling, we have been working from early morning till late to night with Dr. Huber. It has been a terrific strain and oh! what excitement there was in camp about the news! Andler and I expect to be moved from here at any time - and we are expecting it in the dead of night. I know so well in my heart and soul that it will be all over so very soon. Darling, it does not bear thinking about it. I sent the cards off today on this long journey. I shall love you, always. God bless you, Celine.

Saturday - September 9th :- My darling, another hectic day. We had a trip out to the works today and saw the men at work. It is all very heavy stuff. This guy from below is training us crazy here. We had a quiet hour by the sea with the camp workers yesterday afternoon. It was so refreshing and peaceful after so long in camp. I am yours forever and ever. God bless you, Ellen

Sunday - September 10th :- Oh! what a Yankee day - passed rain all day long. I had the sweetest dream ever about you last night my own darling. I dreamed we were dancing together in the most perfect rhythm imaginable. You were in my arms and we danced to and fro for ages and ages. I paraded 85 weak men for inspection by the Japanese doctor, and at last he was impressed with the weakness of the British troops. We had a lecture from him about the treatment of the sick! I remember his recent treatment of them - beating them with a stick as they stood shivering in the snow for two hours! I love you, still. God bless you, Ellen

Monday - September 11th :- My darling, another terrific day with the Japanese doctor. He was buzzing around everywhere, and interfering. The doctors had a session with Wynn, Lutter, Borstie and ~~me~~ about the men. He said we had no authority to punish any of our men. So we decided Borstie and I never to hand any cases over to them to be dealt with. Oh! how I have longed for freedom and you, dearest Ellen, to be away from this awful prison life. God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - September 12th :- My own darling, no letters again for me to write. Many of your letters have been censored but are being held up by the powers above for spite, because I am doing my duty by my men and standing up for them. Oh! how weary I am of all this. Unfortunately or may be fortunately I am more than a medical officer. I have all the responsibilities of the men on my shoulders - Wynn will not have anything to do with discipline, so I have all the dirty jobs. If I had not taken over command, Wynn would have been under Borstie's thumb, because of his rank - so British troops would have been at the mercy of the Dutch. As things stand we are independent of them, and on top of all this are many weak men to be watched, continual visits to the office etc. Oh! how I love you darling. God bless you
Ellen

Wednesday - September 13th : My darling, another day means to you and freedom. I have tried to imagine what my feelings will be like when I am informed that I am free again, but alas it is too big a thing to even consider for a moment. You know that no matter what happens to me or you, I shall always love you. There are Chinese prisoners now working at the factory under armed guards; they appear to be very fed up with life. I have calculated that the war will be over in November 24th this year, otherwise I shall have no newspaper. God bless.

Thursday - September 14th : - Though it is still morning I must write and tell you about my dream of last night. It was the loveliest of all and the most real about you, my darling. It was so real that I decided in my sleep that it was not a dream at all. We were married and were attending a social function together. We were so very happy. The Cosgraves (King St.) were there and Mr. Cosgrave said he was going to the States. I asked if he were going out to see his son Jack. I sang "The Rose of Tralee" and you danced with me and also did a dance by yourself. Then we went home from the function together and we had such happiness that mortals know nothing of. And now I must read your letters once again! And now it is evening and I am ready to tuck into bed under my net. Winter is coming again and so is the cold. My darling, your letters show me how much you love me and how unworthy of your love I have been and still am. Please God it is not too late to make it all up to you. My life, my love, and myself are yours forever. Goodnight.

Friday - September 15th : My own darling, I have loved you and longed for you and missed you today more than any day of my life yet. I have had an awful gnawing at my heart and a yearning to see you again. Just now I am gazing at your little snap on my table and I love everything about you - your smile, your funny eyes, the way you wear your hair. How that little Dublin brooch souvenir brings back memories to me. I can never forget going into that little shop in Talbot St. with Brendan Murray. He thought I was crazy, but he knew who my purchases were for. He did not know what it was like to be in love. Nothing exciting today save my dream I have reached Abbotabad in my war diary. Oh my Lileen shall always be yours come what may. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - September 16th :- Rained all day again and things have been dull. Some letters brought but none for me. I am not expecting any letters until I am free again, but I do not mind because I have done my job and my duty in this camp. It would make me so very happy to have another letter from you, Darling, but I would rather go without it than know how to his wishes and neglect my duty. It is a big sacrifice but I know you would not love me if I took the easy way out and sit back here and do nothing or say nothing in defence of the men here - especially the weak ones. As a result of my efforts 19 weak men have been kept in camp and allowed to do no work. They will be sent to Hakodate for special treatment. Many other weaklings are being given light jobs - and I adore you. God bless you, Ellen

Sunday - September 17th :- Darling, I have had another triumph today. A phone call came from Hakodate (the Colonel Amos's) ordering 30 more of our men to work only 2 days and in easy work! Surely it has been worth my while trying to do something about the men's weak state and the heavy work. Now I am contented - the men will hold out for a few more months till the war is over. No Youssef for me today, as some of the men were working and a night party was out again. There was a grand sunset to-night. Darling, I have had a strange idea today. Would you mind if I washed your hair for you some day when we are married? Oh how my heart aches out for you and your love. I am yours forever. God bless you, Ellen

Monday - September 18th :- My darling, at last father's letter has arrived. He seems to have felt very happy on hearing that I was still alive and well. I was so glad to hear from him in a letter and I hope God will spare him until I reach home again. I want so much to see him again. He cannot be particularly proud of me for having been away from home so much and making a fool of myself so often. I have respected him very much in the past but please God it will not be so in the future. A terrific gale today. A laboratory man from American Navy (Mr Sterling, a W.O.) arrived this evening to do 10 days work. He was captured at Guam lastly in the war. He is old but a good chap. I still adore you. God night and God bless you, Ellen

Tuesday - September 19th - My darling, Canadian Red Cross food parcels came today. We got one small parcel among four men. A little tea, sugar, powdered milk, jam, raisins, chocolate, biscuits, butter, jam, bully beef, salmon, mince roll, cheese - all in minute quantities. The men are very happy with their little hummies. A little Red Cross clothing also came and a few boots. Our 19 week men went to Hakodate today quite suddenly. They all thanked me for all I had done for them - and I had done nothing. I have had a longing for a parcel from you, darling; just something that came from your dear self - handkerchiefs or socks or anything. My own dearest - Celeen I do love you so much. God bless you.

Wednesday - September 20th :- My own darling, two letters from you this evening and one from Jimmy! Oh if I could only tell you how happy I am and yet so sad to think of all the worry I am causing you. Your letters were sent on Nov. 18th; Feb. 3rd & 19th; April 15; May 31; June 7th (the latest) - total now 25 letters. It is hopeless trying to tell you what those 25 letters mean to me in terms of happiness and love. Jimmy has made me happy too because of his high opinion of you, Celeen; I think he and all my friends would love you as I do. He says you are a grand girl and I am very lucky to be getting you. "I think she is very nice and just the type of girl for you" - and I rely very much on Jimmy's judgement. Imagine Billy McQuibby at Changi and I never met him. I do must have been very relieved to hear that he was safe. I was so happy about Frances' first baby boy - she will make a grand little mother. I still don't know what kind of work you were doing in Belfast and I am nervous about it even though you are teaching again. Frances is right about our hard preparation for marriage and it will lead to real happiness. Darling, you are always wandering with the bottom drawer; thank you for always remembering me and keeping a note of everything. How I envy you your trips to Ardoyne with father. I am dying to see your new wavy suede shoes. I am glad Philip is at home again. Darling surely you understand that I cannot write to you as I would like to every week a good fat letter. I am looking forward to reading "Malayan Postscript". Thank God you are getting around a lot to Carralea, Killung, Brangor, Ballynabun. Golfing and gallivanting. Darling, you must go to dances - I want you to go and enjoy yourself. How can you ever say that your letters are boring - they would never be dull for me. I was thrilled

to hear that you had met Dr. Macsherry's sister Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Collings at Dounpatrick. You seem to have a lot of ground in that bicycle. Thank God you are getting around so much - even the Nightown walk with father. Some day soon we shall do that walk together. They are right, those people who say that we will be the happiest couple alive. Will it be really necessary for us to get to know each other before we get married - I know you so well better even than your own family know you. Darling, I loved your idea of coming out to India to me to be married - it would save a lot of time and you would have the East - for a while! Alas I shall not be my own master and will have to go where I am sent. If you could only meet Paul and Mary and Fr. O'Shaughnessy in India. Nothing very exciting in Japan nowadays and nothing here. I am dependent upon dreams and your letters for all my excitement. You know that I shall love you forever. God bless you, Cecilia.

Thursday - September 21st :- Darling, I have read all your letters today and oh how my heart has gone out to you. How in earth you managed to write such cheerful letters during those awful lasty months I do not know - I just could not have done it, Cecilia. Gerry tells me that you were distracted with worry and foreboding. Your recent letters were even more cheerful - oh it is so hard to write letters to someone for 18 months and never get a word of reply. If I only had your courage, darling, I would be a much better man and more worthy of you and your love. I have such a terrific lot to tell you when I get home again - all my story will be for your ears and yours only. Please God that day is not far distant now. I have had my usual day dream about our first holiday at Sandeman together - we have so much happiness ahead of us. God bless you, darling.

Friday - September 22nd :- My own darling, I have now got 27 letters and one postcard from you to date. This evenings two letters were dated January 11th and June 21st. Oh if only you could see how happy your letters have made me. At last your whole story is now pieced together and I know that you have been a temporary Civil Servant in Belfast. for several months before going back to Omagh. It was a wise thing to have a year at home away from teaching. I think you would have gone crazy in Omagh during the bad months. Oh my own darling

it has been your love and your prayers that have kept me sane during these awful years as a prisoner. There is a terrible aching and longing ever in my heart for you and home - nothing but freedom can end that pain and yearning. I too could cry out at times but what good would it do - it would not bring you any nearer to me, and it would mean that I had lost faith in our good God who has showered so many blessings on us already. That was a lovely dream Nellie O'Hare had about us both - and it is a true dream; I shall always be happy with you in my quiet way while you will be radiant with joy. Thank heaven both Philip and Anne are at home again with father - they should never have left him. There has been no excitement today at all. We have now got four diagnosed cases of Amoebic Dysentery. I must have a test tomorrow. My blood sedimentation rate was 21mm. which could not be better and is a good indication that my rheumatism is not active now. Andrew and I have a rough time with our new assistant, Sterling; he is getting on Andrew's nerves but nothing can get in my nerves. Thank God I can now get on with people whom I dislike intensely - I could never do that before I became a prisoner. Please God it is a good sign for our future together. Nowadays I could not rustle even. Good night & God bless you Ellen

Saturday - September 23rd - My darling, Andrew has seen more letters for me in the office and they are from Danzig! These letters must be quite late in 1943. As you only went back to school in September. It is wonderful to think that more of your letters are awaiting me in the near future - they will keep me sane during these last few months of the war. Please God it will be all over soon. I have really no friend here in whom I can confide (as I would in Tony) - no friend except our Good Lord and you. If I could only describe how lonely I feel at times; how I long to see you again and say those three words to you for the first time - I love you. And yet you are with me always in spirit and I can open up my heart to you as I have never opened it to anyone on earth. There never has been anyone like you in my life and nobody could ever replace you - you just mean everything to me, Ellen. All the love which has been stored up in my heart all these years has been for you alone. I had a lovely dream about our

home. We were so terribly happy sitting by our own - our very own - fireside; it was so peaceful and I thought it resembled that home at Margate. That is a glimpse of the happiness which you have in store for us. Then my dream passed and I was lonely again. Darling, I don't think I would like to practice in Belfast; I would prefer the country or the seaside and I know in my heart that you would too. We could visit Belfast on occasions. We would be happier in a quiet place. Yes, darling, we could be married out East, provided I have to stay out here several months before demobilisation. You would love the mystic East and all its charms, and it would be a glorious holiday, honeymoon, and reunion. If I am in India, I think Kashmir would be ideal for us for a honeymoon. The event of the day - a 3½ cwt pig was killed today, but we haven't seen much of it yet. Have you brought our dog yet darling? Good night (11 P.M.) and God bless you.

Sunday - September 24th : Darling, I have just finished writing a 200 word letter to you - it is now 10.30 P.M. I am using both my cards for you this month. All mail is now sent via Trans-Siberian railway from Vladivostok, and only takes a few months. It is awful having to write a love letter on a post card where all the world can read it, but I am not ashamed of my love for you, Helen, and I want the whole world to know about it. It has been a glorious Yarnum Day. We had some baseball today in the afternoon. About 300 letters given out today. We had 3 lovely cakes for canteen - also pastries on toast for breakfast, pork stew at lunch, and were going for supper! God bless you Helen.

Monday - September 25th : Darling, I forgot to tell you that Weynd had a letter from his fiancée, Helen, yesterday saying that she had married another man! Everyone in camp knows about it, alas. Oh my Helen, that would never happen to us - our love is surely stronger than that. I just could not look at another woman ever - it would give me nausea. You are the only woman in the world as far as I am concerned and you will always be the only woman for me. You have all my love and all of me. I am reading "New Silent Friends" (Richard King). "It is so much nicer to sit quietly in the half darkness dreaming of what might have been, what has been, and what yet may be". These will be the happiest moments of our day in our home. When day is done,

and the labours of the day are over, we shall sit in cosy chairs at our own fireside, and forget all about our worries. It will be then that the tide of our happiness will be at its highest - we shall be nearer to each other than at any other time. Oh my darling, it will be then that all our dreams will come true; it will be the happiest fireside in all the world and peace will reign therein. Our home is having its foundations built during these happy days for us. I will always love you. God bless you, Lillian.

Tuesday - September 26th :- My own darling, 10 letters and 1 postcard from you this evening and a card from father. Oh how happy I am this night and I thank God for all his goodness to us both. The dates are September 13th, 20th, Oct. 3rd, Nov. 5th, 14th, 27th; Dec. 4th, 20th, ¹⁹⁴⁴ January 13th, Feb. 12th, 27th; father's was sent on Jan. 31st 1904. Darling, all your letters are now 25 words and it must be a trial writing them, but I love them all because they are from your own sweet self, you whom I love and adore above all else in this world. I am glad that you now carry me around with you, because you are ever with me in your snaf. Grogg's wedding was a surprise. Darling they will all soon be married except us, but darling none of them could ever be so happy as we when we get married. I should love to meet Frances' son and her. Darling, were you really holidaying at Port Stewart in mid January and cycling the Antoin coast in mid February? Thank God you like the things that I like - it is so very important to us. God bless you, darling.

Wednesday - September 27th :- My own darling, I have read your letter twice today and though they bring me such great happiness, yet they make me a bit homesick. I have had that terrific longing in my heart to see you again. Please God we shall not have much longer to wait. Darling, how in earth did you find out about the Wickliffe's reading book. It is a pity you could not have met them, especially those children. But they would have forgotten me by this time. Poor father must be having a rough time with his facial neuralgia again. He was very bad last time he had it. We are having (at least I am) hectic times and now with the local lsehae, but I will not be brow-beaten by anyone. Give him my love. And now you are standing in school teaching for another while. God bless you, Lillian.

Thursday - September 28th - My darling, I am writing this in bed as it is too cold to sit in my room and do it. We have sat all day huddled around our charcoal fire glowing. There is a wave of Optimism sweeping the camp at present and it is not without good reason. Darling, I have been dreaming today about our future when we are married. The big problem will be whether to settle down in Beechwood, have a practice in Olapark as well and just build up a new practice or buy a country practice, or join up with Felix if he is doing well. There are many advantages to having a partnership which I have learned about, and few disadvantages with two men who like each other and trust each other. I shall love you forever, no matter what happens. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday September 29th - My own darling, another letter in bed, but not so cold. I had a lovely letter from you to night, dated July 25th. You had just returned from Kilkelloe from your 5 day retreat and you felt wonderful. Eileen, I should love to visit your Alma Mater and go around your old haunts with you. Remember, I was always a staunch St. Louis Blue man. Now I know how you found out about my friends the Mc Mahons. I should love you to meet them all again, especially Mrs. and those adorable children. My darling, I have an awful dread that when we meet again I should turn out to be a terrible disappointment to you and wholly unworthy of your love. I pray to God that this will not be so. I want you to be proud of me, as I shall always be proud to have you as my wife. I am not a knight in shining armour, I am not gifted or clever, I am not handsome, I am not brilliant - no, darling? I am very plain and ordinary and dull, and you will have to accept me as such, but you have all the love that my poor heart is capable of pouring out to you, Eileen. Darling, you must not pray so hard for me, I am not worth it. You are still and always shall be far too good for me and far too good to me. Three Catholic books arrived in camp today, "Life of Christ" (Isaac D. Homer O. F. M.); Catholic Poetry of the World (Flora Welch), written by an American Convent. They are wonderful. We were interviewed by the Colonel today. All is well. God bless you Eileen

Saturday - September 30th :- My darling, I am now reading "Rebuilding a Lost Faith", by an American Agnostic (John L. Stoddard) - P. J. Kennedy & Sons, New York. It makes wonderful reading. I shall lend out the three books to-morrow in chapel. I am very restless recently, may be because the end is in sight. I have guessed two more months. It is obvious that these people will pack in at the same time as the jays! I cannot bear to think about the end of things, of our journey South to a port, and then across the sea to you my beloved one away in my beloved Ireland. I shall love you and cherish you for the rest of my life. I shall devote my life to making you the happiest woman in the world. I am writing this over the charcoal fire in the huss - all the others are in bed. Nothing much happened today, except my day dreams of you and our future happiness. God bless you, Felix.

Sunday - October 1st :- My darling, our day has come again and I have been back home again with you wondering what you have been doing every moment of it and dreaming of our future Sundays together. I know so well that God will bless our home and make it the happiest that has ever been known; we cannot but be happy together. I hope I have changed for the better during these long weary years away from you - for your sake I hope I am better. I want you to be the happiest wife in all the wide world. You have suffered too much at my hands during our years of separation. I remember seeing you at a dance in Bennington Hall - I watched you the whole evening as you stood talking with Felix, the Bowes, etc. I thought then that you were far out of my reach. How could you ever be bothered with me? And I loved you dearly then, but somehow I could never quite give up hope. Darling, it is a good thing, in a way, that I want to say. It will not do any harm to the Catholic cause in Northern Ireland, to have had Catholics doing something in this war. If the Germans had won the war, I shudder to think what might have happened to you, to Ireland, to our religion by to our homes, to our dear ones by this time. Some day our people will realise all of this; they must realise it. Today has been cold and dull in every way. I have been reading your letters again and I love you more each time I read them. How can I ever love you enough. God bless you, darling. Good night.

October 2nd

Monday ~~September 2nd (Dinner Birthday)~~ - I have been reading your letter again in bed tonight. I should have died of despair if they had not come. They are the only bright spot in my life here and oh what consolation they can bring me. You must be all thrilled at home with the end of the war in sight. The big problem is - will these people give in when Germany collapses? I now think they will carry on a while longer. Oh my darling, how I do love you this night with my heart and soul and all. Real love is something very deep in our hearts which no words can ever express. The British boys working out of doors have now got wonderful American hand-knit sweaters (jolo necks) - and I insisted on it because all the Dutch have baby jolo indoors. I am yours now and forever. God bless you, Celine.

October

Tuesday ~~September 3rd~~ 3rd. My darling reading your letter again tonight and I am loving you more than ever. You must never judge my love for you by the things that I buy for you - that is a poor way of showing affection. My love is deep down in my heart and it is all yours forever. I could buy things for a pet dog and yet I would not be in love with it. Celine my own darling, our love is something between you and me that is meant for us only - only you and I feel it deep in our very souls without saying a word or writing a line about it. I had a glorious walk this afternoon out to the gardens with 20 men - they carried back hay for the camp cow which is due very soon. We had a belated lantern of two cakes and cigarettes. I am reading Father Brown again also "Jenny How". God bless you, Celine.

Wednesday - October 4th - My own darling, many more letters tonight but none came for me. Several of the lads have had snops in their letters - please God, I shall soon have another snop of you, Celine. Oh if I could only see you again and tell you everything that is in my heart. I shall be sending postcards to you and father tomorrow and I can tell you once more of my love for you. We now get up at 6 am and have lights out at 8.30 pm! Darling, you must not expect me to keep such good hours when we are unamed, but I am again sitting up after midnight. Celine, I am unhappy nowadays though I shouldn't be. God bless you
darling

Thursday - October 5th - My own darling, I have written cards to you and father today. I heard that another 1946 letter in tin camp for me but has not been censored yet. I am dying to see your snapshot - the one you promised to send. Winston says the war will be over this year, but he only refers to the European war. I wonder when this war out here will end? I am reading Jimmy Grace - The Book by J. W. Grace, master of music Drury Lane Theatre. He is a Dublin man and has some good stories of Dublin and London in the twenties and thirties. I shall love you for ever. God bless you ever.

Friday - October 6th - There was a bomb scare today when Wiynd was detailed to proceed to Hakodate tomorrow morning. As an interpreter he will be badly missed, but otherwise I think not! We didn't see much of him as he never ate with us but spent his day in his room. He only knew a few of the men and they were the elite and a couple of toughs from Glasgow! However he may be coming back here again. I have finished Jimmy Grace and I still worship the ground on which you tread. God bless you, darling.

^{Holy Rosary}
Saturday - October 7th - My own darling, another luscious day has gone and my only consolation is that it is one day nearer to you. Wiynd left camp at 9am and I was allowed to go to the station on the motor cycle to see him off. The station was crowded and we were the objects of much amusement among the local population. We were like a couple of Gullivers in Lilliput! I saw Jimiso and I did not wait till the train pulled out but walked back home along the rail track. The train passed us on the way and we waved a last farewell to Wiynd. It was awful at the station to see small girls of 10-14 years of age acting as porters and lifting heavy boxes. Please God that will never happen to our children. I dream of those days when our children will be growing up around us. Our home and our family will be a happy and a holy and a loving one always. You will be the Queen of our home and we will all love you. Oh, how I yearn for those days of peace and happiness. We shall have each other forever and ever. Nothing else will matter because our dreams will have come true. We shall have everything and I know that God will bless us, our marriage. We have done a long, hard preparation for our marriage and surely that will mean success and happiness. We have so much good to do and so little time in which to do it. God bless you, darling my darling.

Sunday - October 8th :- A terrific storm today which blew down the perimeter railing and the electric wires - so we'll have no light tonight. My darling, I have been reading your letters all afternoon in bed - have to go to bed it is so cold as we have no charcoal for the fire. The Japanese are in the same boat. I had a good attack of nostalgia reading your letters. They made me love you more and long for you more than ever. Darling, surely it cannot last forever this awful separation which is breaking my heart and yours. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - October 9th :- My darling, two wonderful letters from you this evening - April 26th and May 20th; I have now 40 letters and two postcards from you my own dearest Helen whom I love so very, very much. I will love you as long as there is the breath of life in me. You must have been very happy about Frances being and yet you seem sad that it was not our baby, Helen. Oh my darling, God has a very special reason for making us wait so long for our happiness. Maybe I shall be more worthy of you when our hard preparation has ended. You must never blame yourself for what has happened in the past - it was my fault; besides God had willed that it should happen so, and He knows what is best for us both. We heard today that Wynn is not coming back to us; also that we all may move soon from here. I want to stay here because you now know my address and any change means a delay in letters reaching me. I know you are showing a brave face at home and I am proud of you, Helen. God will give you strength and grace to bear it just a little longer. I am praying hard for you. God bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - October 10th :- My darling, I have sent you a special radio message this evening and oh I would be so happy if I knew you would receive it. You are supposed to send a reply. These men have been showing me snaps and photographs of their wives and families. How I have missed them today. Darling, when will your snap arrive? I want so much to see you again even in a snap. My dearest one, I have been thinking of Rainforest today. I think we should visit it together some day when we are married. I had a night call last night to an ~~elderly~~ ^{elderly} ~~Chelapite~~ ^{Chelapite}. I had wonderful dreams about School during the night. All my love. God bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - October 11th :- My own darling, more letters tonight but, alas none for me; but how can I grumble with my 40 letters from you. Oh what treasures each letter is to me. I know them all by heart almost already. Eileen, my dearest one, will one day never come. I have had an awful day investigating a stolen great coat; pay; and boots - apart from 4 sick parades, hospital rounds, food, microscopic study for ourselves, 2 interviews with Nisale Devi! But I love you. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - October 12th :- Another very hectic day with boots, pay, and sick parades, but I had time to think of you my own darling, and to love you just a little more than before. 210 letters to write and not a one for me - I call it cruel and hard. If your letter would only come - the one with the snap in it, I want so much to see our ring, Eileen, because it means so much to us both. It symbolizes the greatest love in the world. Sometimes I find it hard to really fathom the depths of our love, its holiness, its sincerity, its companionship, its catholicity. I feel so very proud of you, Eileen. Somehow it is such an honour to be in love with you and be loved by you; I am so very proud that we are Irish and Catholics. We would not change our sacred heritage and birthright for anything in the world. There is nothing in the world to compare with these two blessings. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - October 13th :- ^{Mother's 4th Anniversary R.I.P.} My darling, I have had another terrific day trying to do a hundred things at the same time. Many men received Red Cross messages from home this evening and were allowed to reply to them. Oh my Eileen do not think that I don't know that you write at every available opportunity. Letters are not now necessary to our love - mere written words are so small beside the reality of our love for each other. Still I like to write it down over and over again "I love you; I love you, darling". I never grow weary of it. God night and God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - October 14th :- My own darling, I am so very happy to write. I have now received 43 letters and 5 post cards from you. Tonight I had three letters dated January 30th 1944, and March 19th & 27th 1944; three cards dated April 19th, May 11th & 15th 1944; a card from father, Maureen, Margaret, Una, Joe Murphy, May, and Frances. Darling, I am so glad for your sake because you seem to be having a grand time on your tricycle in Inishowen, Antain Coast.

Wicklow and Comemara. How I long to be with you on these wonderful trips. I was madly jealous of your Easter Sunday spent at Breda and then going off dancing with Philip!! You are a darling to spend so much time with my people. Margaret says they all love you and how can I blame them a bit. Darling, you know I want you to have a wonderful time at home and just go to as many dances as you can. I was thrilled about Felix and Ursula's new arrival in Master Hugh. Imagine little Joe and May writing to me - thank you my darling for asking them and arranging all the other cards. Life would be dull without news of you and all your dear ones and mine too. When, my dearest child, you know that you have all the love of my poor heart and that it will always be yours. I can never hope to love you as you ought to be loved, but I will give you all that is mine. God bless you.

Sunday - October 15th :- My darling, I am so happy tonight because I love you so much and because it is our day and because I have been reading your letters and cards again. My day has been busy as usual. Got up at 6.30 am.; P.T. at 7.10 am.; kuko, hospital; breakfast; 8.30 am. prayers at chapel + prayers to St. Joseph; 9 am. Rick parade; 10 am. hospital rounds; 11 am. American football with Onda and Matewzyj; noon lunch; inspect hospital food; 1.30 P.m. went out in coal lorry with Matewzyj in place of a medical orderly who was sick - finished at 3.30 P.m.; bath at 4 P.m.; read letters till 5.30 P.m.; hospital supper and my own at 6 P.m.; smart 7 P.m. till 9 P.m.; kuko and now (9.30) writing to my best girl! Not to mention a meeting of all District branches at 11.30 am when we discussed recent thefts! I was in good throwing form with the football and enjoyed my coal heaving. Thank God I am very fit. I promised the ladies at chapel this evening to start our novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour on next Thursday, and have it for nine consecutive Thursdays. They objected to Thursday as it is bath day! But as you said it must be on that day I was adamant! I have a lovely picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour with a prayer on the back of it. I am wondering will this war ever end. Darling, you must come out soon when it ends - we must not be apart any longer. I do adore you. God bless you, Celia.

Monday - October 16th :- My own darling, yet another letter from you, dated August 9th. Oh the happiness that you have brought to me through your letters. You have just returned from your tour of Wicklow and you had a glorious time, thank God. It makes me so very happy to know that you are really enjoying life in spite of everything. You have been to my beloved Glenageary, Glendalough, and the sweeting of the Waters and Reservoir in the Park at Arklow - I have done all these places before but now I have seen them again with you. Please God we shall really see these beauty spots together some day soon. Capt. Brown arrived today from Hakodate and is his old self. Rumours of Anals leaving for a new camp near Hakodate. Had a nice letter from Supto and brookton, who is a Catholic. Ball practice in the afternoon and I volunteered for coal heaving because I feel so fit. I shall always love you. God bless you, Ellen.

Tuesday - October 17th :- And now there are rumours of me going to the new camp as M.O. ! I have been coal heaving this morning with Anals, Lutter, and Le Herite. I find that I can shovel away merrily for 4 hours without being tired. I have never been so fit in my life; I couldn't have worked like this last year. Oh, my darling, I have longer for you today as never before in my life. There is just no end to my love for you - it has no ending and will go on for ever and ever. I may have another letter to-morrow. God bless you, Ellen.

Wednesday - October 18th :- Hundreds of letters to-night, darling, and none for me, but I don't really mind because God has been very good to me as regards letters and as regards you, Ellen. I do not and never will deserve you. I have developed a mild two - synovitis of my left Tendo Achilles which does not seriously interfere with my powers of locomotion. I have a nice pair of blanket-socks now. You will love them when you see them - they are the very latest in camp fashions! We have just finished a wonderful festa of cake, toast, marmarine and jam. Anals, Al Brown, and I have wonderful times nowadays together. Al Brown showed me his first and only letter from his wife and daughter. He is a lucky man to have such a family. His wife writes a wonderfully descriptive letter of the family happenings at home. She is fascinated watching her daughter and two boys growing up. I told him how much I missed him. My own darling, I know that see them will come soon, and our happiness will exceed any other happiness this world has seen. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - October 19th :- My own darling, we started our house this evening to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. Please God much will have happened before our last Thursday time weeks hence. The locals say there are big happenings around the Philippines and Formosa during the last 5 days but we know who is winning. We have several pet rats which crawl around the brass floor every day - we don't worry them a bit! We are used to them now. I still am yours, Aileen. God bless you darling.

Friday - October 20th :- My own darling, how I longed, and yearned and longed for a letter to day. I can understand how you have felt recently. You are lucky that I am in Japan because it is so very convenient to the Transiberian rail route. I have been in the dumps all day and no amount of thinking improved it. Still I am not ingrateful to God for his mercy to us both. God bless you. Wames has volunteered to go with me should I be moved from here! Good night, darling.

Saturday - October 21st :- Oh my darling, I have had another precious letter from you in Ormaz. You had just returned to school in September 1914 and you said you were happy. Nothing else I wanted to know except that you still love me. My Aileen, you know that I shall love you forever and ever. I had a quiet afternoon with you in the sun up in my hillcock. Some day soon it will be really you in person who will sit by my side. Oh what happiness. God bless you, Aileen.

Sunday - October 22nd :- Oh what a day this has been with Dick, parades, hospital, pray, and censoring post cards. My darling, I have sent you another card this evening and please God it will reach you before Christmas - maybe before the war is over! We had a walk this morning before breakfast and it was glorious. I am longing to see the Snap you promised me. God bless you, Aileen.

Monday - October 23rd :- My darling, it has been a long, dreary, miserable day - rained all day and very cold. I began writing a letter to you in Goodbye but oh what poor stuff it is. I have forgotten most of it, I am ashamed to say. I am reading Sherlock Holmes, (complete) but I have only waded through a quarter of it. The end of the war seemed a long way off today in spite of good tidings. Surely it will end sometime. I have been longing for you the whole day through. I have had day dreams of our home and happiness again. God bless you, my darling.

Tuesday - October 24th : Darling, I had a pleasant surprise this evening when I had a letter from you and a card from Lisa; yours was dated March 15th and Lisa's June 15th 1943. You had just returned from your short visit to Dublin. You made me so happy and yet so pained of your wonderful times in my beloved city. What a shame that I did not receive your Vatican message - it must have been mislaid in Malaya. Eileen, my darling, you are a saint to make so many novenas for us; you never cease praying - I am not holy enough to be your husband - you know that I would be at Mass and Holy Communion every evening too if I could. Lisa's card was very refreshing. She loves you darling and says that you are the one and the only girl for me. You were good not to tell me about her illness, but thank God she is well again. They all love you, Eileen, and that makes me very happy; it means so much to me. Good night and God bless you, darling.

Wednesday - October 25th : My darling, I have been reading your letters all this afternoon and I am feeling ashamed of myself for not realising how few letters (cards) you have received from me and how little you have complained. I have now a more complete picture of you and your feelings during 1942 - May 1946. You must have suffered agonies of suspense - I can read it all between the lines. In my first card I had to say ~~that~~ I was being treated very well - I knew it would set your mind at rest. I wanted to do anything that would stop you worrying. This is my first Anniversary at Amuro and it is even colder now than when I came here a year ago. I am getting in bed knitting this with frozen fingers and wearing my blanket coat! Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - October 26th : My own darling, I have just sent off a radio message to you (150 words). I was the only one in camp allowed to send this message. I do hope some of these messages are reaching you, darling, but I doubt it because I have never had a reply. We had our novenas for peace this evening. Darling, I never talk about it to you, but I find myself loving you more and more as the days go by. My love is growing deeper and truer daily. Our married life will be an ideal Catholic and Irish one, please God. I ask Him daily to bless us and our marriage and I know He will. I am lucky to be alive and in Japan. People in Malaya and Thailand are now cut off from all mail etc. God bless you Eileen.

We had a birthday party tonight. ¹⁷⁰

Thursday - It was Al Brown's birthday today and I gave him my sterling silver pencil and a card - "Birthday Greetings from Ireland" with the national flag in the centre + 4aching Teels in each corner!

Friday - October 27th - My own darling, here I am again and what a day. Paddy and Nais both were sick this morning and everything went wrong. When in the office today I was shown snaps and portraits of the men's wives, fiancées, and children. How I yearned for one of you, Eileen - you whom I love and adore so much. I am shivering with cold, ~~so~~ hence the shawl. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - October 28th - No letters at all today! Darling, I am always expecting letters - it is because I love you so very much and want to hear from you. I saw one of your "Malaya Camps" letters in the censor's desk today and yet I could not touch it. My name was mentioned today on the plane to Hakodate - does this mean a move? Paddy is well again, thank God. Four boxes of Red Cross clothing came today - a futile amount for so many men. I am reading my Irish Verse again. Oh my darling, when I think of you and home I become weary of this life at times, but I do thank Our Good Friend for all the blessings He has given us - our love, our religion, and our birthright. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - October 29th - My own darling, another of our days has come and gone, and I have missed you more than any other day of my life. I have longed for you and yearned for you and loved you so much before. Eileen, my dearest one, I need you so very much - I could never live without you or your love. I will love and cherish you for always. I have been reading your letters and they have brought me comfort that nothing but my God can bring. Yet I have been intolerably lonely, far from home, and you, and my dear ones. Nothing will ever induce me to leave you or home again. And then I play chess every evening nowadays - I am leading 2-1, but we are both bad; I am the worse. It was a busy morning with prayers, sick parades, hospital, and monthly inspection. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - October 30th - Darling, my mood has changed again and I have been happy today. Why should I ever complain of loneliness when God has been so good to us both; when I have your love, what more should I ask for in life. Did you know that Nina loves you very much and that when she was ill in the Mater Hospital in Dublin one of her nurses was a past pupil of yours and she sang your praises no end. Everyone loves you who ever knows you - I do not wonder at it. We had two hours digging today - it was grand. God bless you
Eileen darling

Halloween

Tuesday - October 31st :- My own darling, I am writing to you sitting in bed - that means it is cold! We are to have snow tomorrow, but with only 3 kgs of coal! I have been reading your letters again to night and now I know that I have no right to your loyalty or your love. It is criminal for me to ask you to wait so long for me: however it is a test of our love and that love will emerge from this awful war chastened and poorer than ever. Porcay has been sick again and oh how I miss him. The Colonel is due here tomorrow, so everyone is in a flap. I can never love you enough, Eileen. If you only knew the difference you have made and still make in my life; you are the outstanding event. You are my all and my whole life and happiness is wrapped up in you. Revellie now at 6.30 am, indoors! A sign of the times? God bless you,

All Saints

Wednesday - November 1st :- My darling, you should see my new blanket socks: they are beautiful, nicely trimmed with a blue edge! You would love them and my blanket coat. Nothing seems very incongruous in a prison camp as regards clothing. I have been dreaming of you today Eileen, even though I was disappointed with letters to night. I know that I shall never be happy until we meet again; and oh the happiness we shall then have Eileen. Colonel arrived today. God bless you darling

All Souls

Thursday - November 2nd :- My own darling, what a day this has been with pay, Red Cross clothes issue several visits to the office, change of prisoner clothing etc. etc.. I have been in the men all day long. We had our usual novena this evening and prayers for peace. I had time to think about you and our future home together. Darling, don't imagine that I will be too late. God bless you, darling.

Friday

Wednesday - November 3rd :- We had our interview with the Colonel this evening and it lasted two hours. We are to have baths much oftener and the men will have fines frequently. I made my usual speech of thanks when he had finished and said how much we appreciated everything he had done. I am sending you another postcard this evening, Eileen. I do love you so much. God bless you

Saturday - November 4th :-

My darling, I have had a hectic day trying to sort out the awful mess Wynne has left the Red Cross issues of clothing. Many articles had been duplicated while other men had none. I had a few tough moments trying to phone everyone. Dearest darling, I have dreamed of you now for the past two nights and they have been happy dreams. I am praying hard these days. God bless you
Eileen

Sunday - November 5th :- My own darling, I am sitting huddled up in bed writing to my beloved - and though my heart is warm, myself I am very cold. I had a terrific day with Red Cross clothing, sick parades, interviews, offenders etc etc. But I had time to think of you and love you as never before. I am resigned to spend the winter here. Oh if I could have one Cross here what a consolation it would be. God bless you ^{belly}

Monday - November 6th :- My own darling, it seems that I never have a rest these days and it is a good thing. Tobacco and cigarettes cannot be bought at any cost nowadays. We have two packets of cigarettes weekly and I give one to Paddy - he will not accept the two as of yours. There is almost nothing of all things outside - we are lucky to be prisoners. Good night and God bless you

Tuesday - November 7th :- My own darling, I have been in the mess all day fixing men up, putting boots and attending the sick. The hill above the camp is barren, there was a frost last night and the lads have seen the first snow on the mountains. We have stones lit all day now. I haven't started using my hot water bottle yet! No letters today, but I still adore you. God bless you, Helen

Wednesday - November 8th :- My dearest one, here I am again and still cheerful in spite of no letters tonight! Oh how I do love you in this cold November night - shivering does not improve the feeling. Hot water bottle to night! I expect to spend the winter here. God bless you, Helen

Thursday - November 9th :- My own darling, there is an awful gale blowing tonight from the Siberian wastes - and oh! it's so cold. I am reading "Together and Apart" by Margaret Kennedy and it's good reading. I have had a hectic day around camp, but I had time to love you with all my heart and soul. We had our usual novena tonight in the Chapel. God bless you, Helen

Friday - November 10th :- The snow has come at last and the usual blizzard from Selena with it; temperature now 0°C. It has been a hectic day of trouble at the hospital when Coulter was found with a missing sheet, beaten and all the orderlies persuaded in the snow for 1½ hours - I stood with them in sympathy, but I guess that didn't help them much. I was the go-between the boys and the Gooks. Darling, everyone is getting snafu from home - when is yours coming. I do love you so very much. God bless you Helen!

Armistice

- Saturday - November 11th - Hail, rain, and snow today and the usual hurricane with it. Helios blew down all the fences around the camp! Dr. Shiba is due tomorrow. The doctors now have a sitting room with a stove in it up in the hospital. It is cosy and we have some privacy - we can read and play chess. I am leading Anders at chess 3-2. Love you. God bless you.
- Sunday - November 12th - The Dr. Shiba came this evening and was much subdued - a man dead at Hakodate a few days ago and the Col. was furious. He said in a letter, that it broke his Rules that a man should die! I was busy with pay, clothing returns etc. No letters for me today. Darling, you know how much I am in love with you - I am yours forever. God bless you, Celine.
- Monday - November 13th - The Shiba man has changed a lot. We have had a very quiet day with him and he seemed very pleased with things. Darling, please do not ever look any nice for me when we are married - I have had enough for a lifetime. God bless you Celine.
- Tuesday - November 14th - My own dearest child, I had a letter from you to night and I am on top of the world again. It was dated Nov 20th and you had just returned from your holiday at Omagah with Miss McQuigan. Mrs. Ray has been very kind to you, Celine. You called me your husband to be and it made me strangely happy. I had an Air mail card from Kay O'Connell from Letterkenny - she was a nurse at the Mater. I visited her sister, Nancy, in Walsall hospital many times when she had pericarditis and always sent her Panatins and chocolate! God bless you Celine.
- Wednesday - November 15th - My dearest darling, I have been gazing, and gazing, and gazing at you all evening. This has been the happiest evening of my prison life. This evening I was called up to the office by Oroni and shown a beautiful snap of you taken at the door of Spring Villa and another one taken with another young lady whom I know not. Darling, I was allowed the great honors of having the snaps before the letters are sent and they were sent in April this year. My darling, you look wonderful, thank God. I shall be up half the night looking at these snaps of you. In one of the letters you said you would send a family snap every week. I should love that, Celine. There is joy intold in my heart this night Sweetheart. Kirate told us a big secret - Red Cross ^{boxes} for blankets, God bless you, Darling. Darling the ring looks wonderful! Are you really mine? Or am I dreaming again?

(I did not sleep till all hours last night looking at you). I woulda to myself.

Thursday - November 16th - My very own darling, I have spent my day looking at you. I showed you to Capt. Brown, Anate, Paddy, and Mames. I am so very proud of you and proud to love you so much. Our love and our life together will not be in vain and our happiness will not come too late, darling. Our joy will be so great that it will more than compensate us for all the grief we have missed together. I dreamed last night that Winston Churchill came to visit me here and brought me very good news! I asked him how the Irish regiments were doing? I am reading an Irish book called "Mr. Dowley Among his Fellow Countrymen" - its about an Irish American in Chicago. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - November 17th - Darling I had 5 cards tonight - one letter from you (April 29th 1944), one card (June 5th 44), joint card from you and Frances from Kilkeel (July 2nd 44), and ^{one} ~~two~~ from Kay O'Connor from Letterkenny (she is a stand old midwife from B'ham whose sister I befriended in Walsall when I was in B'ham). Darling, you told me briefly of your holiday plans, again you advise a novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour for our intentions. I was pleased to hear from Father and know that he is praying for me everyday - you have so many people praying for my worthless self. They will be so very disappointed when they see me. You must know, Eileen, that I love you with all the love of my heart and soul; that I never have and never could love anyone but you my dearest child. I am looking at your Irish face now before me as you stand at the door of Spring Villa and I love you with my life - it is all yours; everything that I am and everything that I have belong to you now and forever. It is bitterly cold here in this moon 0°C! God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - November 18th - My own darling, I will never grow weary of looking at you. This Spring Villa Anate is the real you; the girl I have always loved so much. Eileen I think you have very good dress sense and know just what to wear. I am dying to see you at Southampton docks, dressed as you are now. I will love and cherish you forever, Eileen. Nothing can ever change me. I will never cause you a moment's pain as long as I live, darling. We will be the happiest couple that God has ever created. I am longing to be settled in Beechwood with you, darling, and have it all to ourselves. Won't it be wonderful having each other forever and ever. We have been sleeping today. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - November 19th : My own darling, I have spent the entire afternoon with you in my room and read every one of your letters and cards. I had your snap in one hand and your letter in the other. So was cold but I had a very happy time. The trouble about the winter is that I cannot spend much time with you alone in my room as it is so cold. Darling, you have been so loyal to me all these weary months of waiting that I feel ashamed of my poor efforts. I do not deserve such a love as yours. The end of the war is not in sight any more and it makes me sad. I shall love you always. God Bless you Eileen

Monday - November 20th : My own darling, this is my last piece of writing paper - I had calculated on this was being over by this time! But alas my forecast is badly out. I cannot even visualize the end at all - it will be too wonderful to contemplate it. Corporal High gave a letter from you to me in the office today - dated July 1944! Darling, only you can appreciate what your letter mean to me - you have had the same awful ache in your heart, the same awful yearning. Do you realize that, since your snap came I take it out and look at it every time I enter my room - I cannot help it! Darling, I have changed in one way since you saw me last - I love you about a million times more. God bless you, Eileen (Received oats and tea today. No cigarettes or tobacco in camp. Rice ration cut today. No canteen.)

Tuesday - November 21st : My own darling, another letter to night dated May 19th - I think your snap must have been in this one because there were 14 words in it telling me of the snaps of our dear ones you were sending sweetly. That makes me very happy, Eileen, because I love all your folk as much as my own. Darling, your poor snap is being worn out by my daily inspections of it. The men are desperate for cigarettes nowadays. Thank God I don't even miss my pipe. Rice and stew 3 times daily! God bless you ^{darling} Eileen

Wednesday - November 22nd : My darling, the winter is here again but there's still Spring in my heart. Nothing can ever depress me because I am in love with you and you love me. The greatest dream of my life has come true - you are mine, Eileen, though I don't deserve you one little bit. Oh why did we come together when we were thousands of miles apart? Darling it was God's holy will and it all happened for the best. We must always leave everything in His hands and all will be well. My room is an icebox tonight but my heart is warm. Good night and God Bless you Eileen

Tuesday - November 28th :- My own darling, the war will have to end soon because I have very little paper left now. I am doing much microscopic work recently and have become quite expert in the subject of Amoebic Dysentery. I grow weary at times wondering how good the USA medicines and everything there is; good food, good music, good education and museums. I'll get over it tomorrow. Paddy is making me a birthday cake! Darling, I am still gazing at you as you stand outside Spring Villa and to me you are the most beautiful creature on this earth - so all I can do is to worship the ground you walk upon. I know that your soul is as white as snow and that means everything to me, Eileen. I could not love you if you were bad - but you darling could never be so. I am off to bed to dream of you. (As usual I am the "sucker" - gave packet of cigarettes to Araki, Ito, Asari, Kudo, Takahashi).

Michael Rodrigues presented me with a packet! Good night and God bless you, Eileen. Wednesday - November 29th :- Darling, I spent an hour last night in bed reading your letters and looking at your snaps. I have a wonderful collection and thank God I have them because they do help to keep me sane. I am reading short stories by Edward J. O'Brien. Oranges and apples arrived in camp today for Christmas. Paddy made me a lovely cup of chocolate at noon today - he is a jewel to me. The others don't have the same attention. God bless you Eileen.

Thursday - November 30th :- My own darling, we have had real Autumn weather recently and it was very pleasant. Tomorrow Capt. Brown is leaving us. He had treated every man in camp. Tomorrow is the second Anniversary of the camp foundation - not a yessume day. Current on Sunday Red Cross medicines on Monday - 13 cases. I shall always love you, Darling. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - December 1st :- Rainstorm all day long. Al Brown went off at noon today, having missed the first train. The Green brother visited me at 3 am. This morning he is a good lad. Stumpy came late bearing his gifts. This was the 2nd Anniversary of the camp. Tomorrow is my 5th Anniversary in the Army! And Monday my 32nd birthday. Darling, I had a lovely dream of you last night. The war was over and I was at home again with you. Oh if only that dream would come true. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - December 2nd :- Darling, ^{five} ~~two~~ years a soldier tonight! and I am older to night than I was five years ago at Crookham Camp! I am reading "Sunday" a story of a horse by Will James. Finished "Good bye Mr. Chips" today, not as good as the picture. Darling, I am disintegrating with the cold but my heart was never warmer. God bless you Ellen

Sunday - December 3rd :- The coldest day ever, but we still had a big crowd at chapel. The Protestants have abandoned services for the winter but we intend to carry on! A great concert to night but oh it was cold. I presented the prizes at the end. My own darling, I spend another of our days with you in thought. Good night and God bless you ^{Ellen}

Monday - December 4th (my 32nd Birthday) :- My own darling, here I am becoming an old man. I began my birthday with Paddy's smiling face wishing me a happy birthday before I was properly awake! I found a lovely birthday cake waiting me in the mess. It was delicious. At lunch, Hain produced a delightful Indian curry, a cold salad, Christmas pudding + milk and sugar + 1 apple + 1 orange + a very lovely Greeting Card. Then I sat down and wrote a card to you and Maa. I presented Hain with my precious scarf. Darling, I was so very near to you this day. God bless you ^{Ellen}

Tuesday - December 5th :- My darling it has snowed all day but there is still joy in my heart. I dare not let myself think and so I go on and on living from day to day and the time passes quickly. Paddy made me a meat pie today! You would love him, Ellen. You must meet him! The Colonel is due to morrow. God bless you Ellen.

Wednesday - December 6th :- My own darling, it has been a restful day. The Colonel arrived and interviewed about 150 men. I asked today for a Japanese Catholic priest to come here on Christmas Day, but it is still undecided. I made many requests for the men. A letter came today from the Swiss Legation at Tokyo saying that we could write home through them about wills, powers of attorney etc. My darling, I do love you this night with all my heart - God bless you Ellen

Thursday - December 7th : To night there is a blizzard outside - cannot see two feet ahead but the snow is really very nice. Thank God I do not feel the cold at all - I was well broken in last year. The most wonderful part of a prisoner's life is when he is asleep comfortably in bed. It is a bad thing to sleep too well - you wake in the morning and feel as if you have been cheated, that you have missed all the blessing of it. The awful part of the day is getting out of bed in the morning. I am still drinking Roppee three times a day. Paddy made me an apple and orange pudding yesterday. Have just finished reading "Aaron's Rod" (S.H. Lawrence) - a beautiful book. Good night and God bless you, Ellen.

Friday - December 8th (Immaculate Conception) : I awoke early this morning and looked out upon the loveliest snow scene I have ever seen. The snow was several feet deep and oh so white and pure for Mary's great feast day. We had our interview with the High Commandant. He promised to send a present here on Xmas Day, thank God. I made my usual speech and thanked him for his generosity during the year, wished him a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. Darling, I do love you so much that nothing about it is of no use at all. I must off to bed. Good night and God bless you Ellen.

Saturday - December 9th : Darling, I had a lovely walk this afternoon. The snow was very deep but it was pleasant. The kiddie were skiing everywhere. I had biscuits and jam this evening! Darling, you know that I love you so much. The Dutch Choir were singing "Silent Night, Holy Night" this evening and it made me homesick. God bless you Ellen.

Sunday - December 10th : My darling, we had a big turnout at Chapel this morning - snow deep in the ground, very cold. The Protestants have abandoned all services for the winter! So I am doubly proud of our lads here. I spent the afternoon in bed because I was feeling blue and wanted to be with you, Ellen. I had such a wonderful dream of you last night. This afternoon I spent thinking of every little detail of our romance right from the beginning till now. It has all been God's will. Good night and may He bless you Ellen.

Monday - December 11th :- My own darling, another day nearer. Oh if only you could see the beauty of the snows here. To night the hill above the camp is glowing white with a pinkish hue from the local blast furnaces reflecting on it. Had a long chat with Hain today about religion, love, and India! That lad has many deep thoughts in that head of his. I have been fed up today again. The Japanese proposed a Japanese Protestant missionary for Christmas to lead the service, but as he could not speak English the offer was refused. What a blessing that our Holy Mass is the same the world over - in a common language. I still love you. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - December 12th :- My darling, the snow is still falling and huge icicles are hanging from the roofs. I was busy with the pay today, but it has been dull. Now I know that I have always known that I will love you forever. God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - December 13th :- My darling, I had such a glorious dream about you last night - I was at home again. Falk Park came into my dream. Darling, I am very restless nowadays and dream very often that the war is over. The Red Cross Medicines came today - 13 boxes! 480 America Greatcoats, more followers etc. ^{Prayers} God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - December 14th :- My darling, It is now 10.45 P.M. and I have just finished working out a scheme for dividing Red Cross Clothing among the British troops. There are vague rumours of the war ending soon. 5°C below today! Hain gave me coffee, milk, sugar today. In future Yasume days on 5th, 15th, 25th each month! Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - December 15th :- My darling, I had a lovely letter from you this evening. It was the letter you had typewritten by the Red Cross volunteer in London. It was dated July 22nd 1943 - Sent to Malaya Camps. You told me you loved me - that made me happy; you said that you would wait for me forever. I was charmed to hear that Tony spent 3 weeks in Beechwood with Philip. This has been a hectic day for me at work - not a single moment relaxed from 7am till 10 P.M. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - December 16th :- My darling, I haven't had time to breathe today, but through it all I have had time to think of you. The snow is still deep on the ground but it is all very pleasant in spite of the cold. Celine, I have never been so near to you or to home than I am nowadays - I just have the feeling that we shall be together ere long. As usual I am not accepting any Red Cross blotting. Good night. God bless you, Celine

Sunday - December 17th :- My darling, I had a letter from you to night and I am immensely happy. It contained a lovely snap of Frances, Roland, and little Arthur. Darling Ringuats in winning the Blansbogan Cup and the Patrick Cup (I hope). You say that you feel our reunion is near and so do I my darling girl. You still call me darling and you still love me. I can never hope to love you enough. God bless you Celine

Monday - December 18th :- Darling, I just cannot imagine Frances in a habit having a husband and a baby, but I expect she is really an excellent wife and a good little mother. I have been thinking a lot about our married life recently and I think that we shall be infinitely more happy in 10 years time than Felix, Juliana or Frances and Roland. We have something to carry us on ahead through our married life that they have not got. When the novelty of living together has worn off in a year or two our love will only become more solid and true; our companionship will come to the rescue too; our common interests - everything we love. Please God, too, our children will hold us nearer to each other; our religion, our love of country, love of games and outdoor exercise, love of Ireland's green hills and valleys and seas, love of animals, love of all things. Darling, it will be too wonderful. Good night & God bless you Celine

Tuesday - December 19th :- My darling, this has been another terrific day, but I love you with a fervour that I did not dream possible and it makes my life here almost happy. I try to keep my mind off things all day and try to ignore that awful longing and aching in my heart that is always with me. I only feel the winter cold in the early morning, but am quite immune to the climatic conditions now. But oh, how I do love you. Good night and God bless you Celine

Wednesday - December 20th :- My darling, I have been working all morning and afternoon in the Quartermaster's department - caps, gloves, boots, towels etc. Quiller has taken a pair of gloves but I would not have anything. The time is passing very quickly and I am still confident that the end is near. I have diagnosed another case of malaria - in spite of the other two doctors' happening. He is doing well on Quinine. Good night and God bless you, ^{Ellen}

Thursday - December 21st :- My darling, I was dreaming about you again last night and oh we were so happy together. I dreamed that I was giving out the Rosary in St. Paul's and Fr. Joe was standing beside me. Felix was in my dream too. The time passes quickly nowadays. I have had some nice Christmas cards made and will send you ~~some~~ ^{one} but you will not have it till the war is over. God bless you, Ellen

Friday - December 22nd :- My own darling, I am actually dreading the approach of Christmas because I know that it will be an unhappy one for me. I shall be thinking too much about the happiness I shall be missing at home with you, Ellen. I have been busy today with pay, clothing, preparation for the Christmas cake, Red Cross parcels to summer. Oh, how I am longing for home and for you, Ellen. God bless you darling.

Saturday - December 23rd :- My own darling, this has been one of my happiest days as a prisoner of war - and my busiest. It all began with another wonderful dream about you last night, Ellen, but alas it ended in sad farewells because I went off in a ship to sea with other troops to Egypt through submarine reported waters. I was called away suddenly and left a message with a shop assistant at Anderson + Mr. Auleys to give to you and paid him £1! I have been doing out food parcels today and had one myself; have collected all the cake ingredients too. The Japanese priest came in the afternoon - a very charming little man. Wonderful to relate he will come on Christmas morning at 8.30 am and have professions before Mass which will begin at 9 am. Oh my darling, you have no earthly conception of how I am looking forward to that Holy Mass and receiving the Divine Infant into my heart. I have missed Him so very much all these months. To finish my perfect day I received your most loving letter of March 3rd 1943. Dear love is the greatest the world has ever known. ^{My darling} that is so every time. I only wish I could love you more. God bless you, Ellen

Sunday - December 24th :- My darling, this has been a terrific day preparing for Christmas. And now it is nearly 11 P.M. and I am tired and sad, thinking of you and those silver candlesticks. I know that you will have six candles burning again this year. I issued brand new American greatcoats to every man in camp; such parades; cake ingredients; pay for medical services; their practice for tomorrow; good news for the men. Christmas cards from Mami and Jackson; have sent you one too Eileen - a winter scene of the view from my window. God bless you, Eileen darling.

Christmas Day - Monday December 25th :- My own darling, can you imagine the great and wonderful happiness I had this morning when I had Mass and Communion for the first time in almost one whole year. I could never hope to express the joy that was in my heart. I felt nearer and dearer to you, Eileen than ever before in my life. The Dutch Chasi sang "Silent Night" beautifully. I was homesick for a while but I realised my happiness and thanked the Good Lord for everything. We had much Holy Water blessed too; not to mention the knit. I had a present from Mami's - two precious bars of chocolate which he could ill afford. I had many Christmas cards too. The priest left many Japanese lady pictures behind for us and the men were thrilled. I have kept them for you, Eileen. We had lovely meals today with pork twice and Xmas cake. The concert was a terrific success. I dressed up as Santa Claus and gave out the prizes! I also had my photograph taken - another souvenir for you, Eileen. To complete my joy I sent you and father a card each today! It has been a perfect day - almost. God bless you Eileen.

Tuesday - December 26th :- My darling, my tiny hands are frozen but I still love you with all my heart and soul. I sent a card to Felix and Frank Duff today - I hope they will recognise the strange name. I cannot tell you how happy I am and how very optimistic I now feel. I am expecting liberation in June 1945. God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - December 27th :- My darling, how are you enjoying your holidays at home? I hope you are having good times at parties and dances. I want so much for you to be always happy, Eileen. I would feel much better if I knew for sure that you are not worrying about me. It was 6°C below 0°C today! Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - December 28th :- Darling, I am writing this in bed, so please excuse everything. I am depressed tonight as our doctors have told us of a big German advance into Belgium. Darling, when, oh when will we see each other again. Nothing exciting today. I am still looking at your lovely snaps and loving you more and more every day. Good night & God bless you ^{Ellen}

Friday - December 29th - Our 4th Anniversary :- My own darling, I have been sad today thinking and thinking about the past. Oh what a blind fool I have been not to have seen that you were in love with me. Oh the years of suffering my stupidity has caused us both. I must not think about it but thank our good Lord for bringing us together again. Everything must have happened according to His Holy Will. May be He will arrange our reunion soon but whenever it comes it will be in His own good time. I had good news today - Corporal Neff has seen seven or eight letters (August date) in the office for me. I am anxious to see them all soon. May our next Anniversary be spent together. I can only love you the longer we are apart. God bless you, Ellen

Saturday - December 30th :- My Darling, we had another Red Cross parcel this evening. We are to have a cake each at New Year. Walter was beaten up today by the A.S. and I intend taking some action when the old man comes to visit us. I was busy today with giving out parcels, collecting cake ingredients, and giving out clothing. God bless you Ellen

Sunday - December 31st :- My own Darling, another year has ended and here I am in bed writing to you with cold hands. My question tonight is - Am I more worthy of you than I was a year ago? Yes, Ellen, I feel that I am better. My love is purer, stronger, and infinitely more sincere than in 1943. My captivity has only increased my love for you. I am learning more and more each day the real value of things that count. I can appreciate you and your love more - my religion, my country and my friends. Ah, Darling, I haven't had a friend like you or Jerry in whom I could confide everything. I am missing you more and more every day we are apart and I can never hope to be happy until we meet again. I have been very sad today for no obvious reason. There were letters tonight but none for me. Surely this misfortune cannot last for another year. Good night and God bless you, Ellen

Monday - January 1st 1945 :- The New Year has been opened quietly. We had a parade at 9 am. at which I read the Commandant's speech. I was up at the hospital early and gave them all my greetings. I had several New Year cards and am quite flattered about it too! We had a short service in the hospital today. It has snowed all the day - so the New Year is fitting white everywhere. This year I wish you all happiness and blessings. God bless you Ellen

Tuesday - January 2nd : My darling, it has been a very dull day and I have been feeling very blue. I was expecting a few letters tonight but the interpreter is on holidays. The ration is small now - no vegetables. Oh my darling, I am longing and praying with all my heart and soul that this will all end soon. At times that ache in my heart becomes almost unbearable and I could cry out. If only I had a real friend to confide my troubles to; if only I had Mass and Communion as last year. And yet I must work this all out for myself. God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - January 3rd : My own darling, I am terribly lonely and depressed now, but of course I must not let show it. I am reading Sean O'Casey's "Juno and the Paycock", and this morning finished "The Playboy of the Western World" (J. W. Synge). I saw the latter play in Dublin (Abbey Theatre) in August 1936. I am having a glorious time reading these five Irish plays: "Spreading the News" (Lady Gregory); "Riders to the Sea" (Synge) and "Shadow and Substance" (Paul Vincent Carroll) - these are the other three plays. The introducer says that "modern Irish drama leads what is left of the European theatre". I was very proud to be Irish and always will be. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - January 4th : Darling, I am writing a card to you tonight and I am happy for the moment. I have just finished reading "Juno" and "Riders to the Sea" - the latter is a beautiful thing about island life off Galway. There were letters tonight but none came for me - and I was disappointed, but I must not because I should feel so grateful to our Good Lord for so many blessings. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - January 5th : My darling, this has been a rest day and I have pasted company with my Irish plays - I hated finishing them! There was a heavy snow storm today and the snow is now 12" deep everywhere - 3 feet in places. We had a lovely walk yesterday out to the country and saw some lovely skiing and tobogganing down a pretty hillside. I would love to be able to ski. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - January 6th : My darling, this has been the coldest day ever - the men went out to work in a blizzard 7°C below zero; icicles formed on their eyelashes. My friend Neil has influenza (102.5°F) but feels better this evening. I arranged orange juice drinks for him this evening. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - January 7th : My darling, another week has gone by and I still love you. But recently my mind has been numbed and I live only from day to day and do not think of the day of my release. I find it the best way because it causes less mental suffering. The weather is cold but pleasant. I like it except getting out of bed in the morning. I shall love you forever and ever. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - January 8th :- My darling, I had a lovely surprise this evening when 3 air mail cards from you arrived. I have been walking on air ever since. The dates were July 18th + 30th; August 4th. I had also one from Kay O'Connor. Darling you must not be jealous. You will understand why you must not be so when we visit Canada together. Did you really write "I miss you terribly because I love you so much"? I can hardly believe it's true. You must feel very proud of his new son - though he was born on the Twelfth! Wish I was at Port Stewart with you. You have finished another Length Derg. God bless you Eileen

Tuesday - January 9th :- My own darling, I love you so much this night that I could cry out with pain. I miss you and need you, Eileen, as never before. There is a big crisis approaching for me in this camp and I need your prayers and my own for strength to do the right thing. I am arranging all my letters to night. God bless you, Eileen.

(Josie's 6th Anniversary R.I.P.)

Wednesday - January 10th :- My own darling, I am still in love with you and will never change. I have arranged all these letters inside your envelopes for safety. I have been reading about some of my experiences in Changi in the early days of my captivity. I have not mentioned any horrors at all. Snow has been shining in a clear blue sky for two days but still we are snow bound. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - January 11th :- My darling, I am sorry about these awful letters which I am writing to you nowadays. So much is happening in the outside world that we are all excited, and the usual wave of optimism has swept over the camp. These folk are getting an awful pasting down in the Philippines, and tomorrow, not to mention the Bee-Twenty mines over there, etc. I still love you. Did I tell you that some Japanese medical orderlies visited us the other day and a funny little lad began singing a song about Ireland in Japanese (march time). He came again today. He always gives me a very special salute. Good night and God bless you Eileen

Friday - January 12th :- My own darling, lovely weather mine havin'! Temperature at Zero C during the last few days but snow today. I am reading A Free Press in Brooklyn (Betty Smith). Things are very quiet and the raps are very very subdued. If only the Japs would pack in things would end soon. I am longing with all my heart to see you again. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - January 13th :- My darling, I have missed you more today than any other day of my life. I am feeling blue and fed up listening to those rude Dutchmen gabbling away in their awful language. God bless you, Eileen

Sunday - January 14th :- My darling, it has snowed all day long and I have been bored again. I cannot account entirely for my blues. I forgot I received a Red Cross sewing kit, pencil, and comb (stamped U.S. Army). We heard the good news that Gingsper got it a few days ago! Darling, surely it will end sometime. I fear that we shall have a rough passage here during the last few months. We've had no vegetables but rice and brown stew three times a day. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - January 15th :- My darling, this has been a Yasmine Day and I had a T.A.B. injection. Oh my arm, how it hurts; I feel rotten, but must go to bed. Kuttler went to bed at 5 P.M.. Darling, are you praying hard? I prayed with Eileen all my heart as we said Rosary etc this morning in the cold chapel. God bless you.

Tuesday - January 16th :- My own darling, I had an awful night but am alright now thank God. There has been a wicked blizzard today. Terry told me today about the awful conditions up on the hill among the troops. It is agreed by all that the best place in Japan is in a prison camp. Good night and God bless you Eileen.

Wednesday - January 17th :- My darling, the coldest day ever! I have started reading The Forsyte Saga (Galsworthy) - 900 pages! I love you, I love you and I will love you until I die. Oh why must it go on and on? Pray hard. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - January 18th :- My own darling, I had a wonderful dream last night. Brother Hagle told me that the war was over and I danced with joy and went off to Springfield Road post box to you, Eileen. I had two small presents from Toronto today and it pleased me very much (smo man & charm). Oh I have so many things to tell you and give you when we meet again. God bless you, Eileen darling.

Friday - January 19th :- My own darling, I had a lovely dream about you last night and now I love you with all my heart and soul. Tomorrow is your birthday and I can't give you anything but my heart as a present but you have always had that - so it's not really a present. Coal shovelling yesterday. God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - January 20th - (Eileen's 3rd Birthday) - My darling, from early morning till late to night I have been with you and wishing you every happiness. I wanted so much to see you and tell you all about it. Please God next year will see us together again never to be parted. I had a row this morning with a sailor. Like all Americans his opinion is always correct and the only one. It is stupid to argue but the other officers said I was in the right. I stated that Dutch military law still held good in this camp in spite of the Japanese - and he said no. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - January 21st :- My darling, the row is all over now but it wasn't yours truly who settled it! Maybe I'm in a bad way - all on edge like everyone else. I am now 80.5 Kgms in weight (12st. 9lbs) - my normal weight. A British Cook was discharged from the cookhouse today very unjustly - he was struck by a Dutch Cook and did not even retaliate - both were fined. The matter was reported to the wip by Lutter. My darling, I still adore and love you. Good night and God bless you Ellen

Monday - January 22nd :- My darling, we had a lovely walk this afternoon but it was so very cold. My feet have not been warm all day long. Nani gave me a lovely pair of slippers socks today - flesh lined! What a luxury. No letters yet Ellen. The latest one dated October 1944. Good night and God bless you Ellen

Tuesday - January 23rd :- My darling, I have an awful cold and to make matters worse the temperature is 8°C below and the coal is not coal but dirt! I read some Byrnie's "Messer Marco Polo" this afternoon and am now reading "Magnificent Obsession". Marco Polo is told by a Co. Antoin man from the Glens! God bless you Ellen

Wednesday - January 24th :- My darling, it is now 11°C below but I've got my love to keep me warm. The diet has been nice and onion soup for part 4 meals now. Only 10 patients in hospital and very few sick. Now reading "The Yearling" by Marjorie Kinman Rawlings. Am waiting to you to night. God bless you, Ellen

Thursday - January 25th :- Darling, my Santa Claus photograph has arrived and it is terrific. I did not realise it was so good. Everyone came out very well. It will be a lovely souvenir afterwards to show you, Ellen. We had an inspection to day by a Colonel from Tokyo. No letters for ages. Only 9 men in hospital. I do love you Ellen but I am now in a perpetual state of blues. I dreamed last night that we were married and met Paul and Mary Gleadell; Josie & Maud Welch. God bless you Ellen

Friday - January 26th :- Yasmine today, darling, and oh it was so cold in the chapel of Our Lady of The Snows this morning! I gave my Santa Claus photo to Reneke to day and the Group's one to Paddy. I dreamed last night about the Douglas of Ravenhill - also about St. Malachy's College. Darling I still love and adore you. God bless you, Ellen

Saturday - January 27th :- My own darling, the new doctor from Hakodate came today (Japanese) but I haven't seen him yet! Canteen today 10 biscuits, cigarettes, matches. Ellen, I am still dreaming about Belfast. I know that I shall love you forever and ever, my darling. May peace come soon. God bless you darling

Sunday - January 28th :- My darling, I love you, though there were no letters for me today. The new doctor seems a nice little man - can speak a little English. He will examine the men tomorrow. Hais gave me cake, butter, jam and coffee today. Pacific russies advance into jimmyland. Goodnight and God bless you, Celine.

Monday - January 29th :- My own darling, I do love you more as never before in my life. I can never love you enough. The doctor (Okamura) has finished here and now the Colonel is due to arrive tomorrow. No news today, but it can't last long. God bless you Celine.

Tuesday - January 30th :- My darling, another day has gone - one nearer to home and you and peace. The Colonel came today and spoke to the men as usual. He is much subdued. The doctor has gone. Hais gave me cake, butter, jam, tea with sugar and milk in it. Darling, I am longing to see you again. God bless you, Celine.

Wednesday - January 31st :- My darling, we had another Red Cross food parcel today and already I have eaten most of the chocolate but don't want anything else. I had an interview with Asai today and he gave a solemn promise not to treat the men again. I am reading "The Kingdom of the Spherials" (Locke). God bless you, Celine.

Thursday - February 1st :- My darling, I have finished my cigarettes - me to me, Asai, Asake, Tada Green Archer, Kudo, and his fingers. Gave raisins to Asake & Tada. I have finished chocolate too. We had our interview with Col. Emoto today and he spoke of the American revolution. He paid a special compliment to me in the health of the camp. I shall love you, Celine forever and ever. God bless you, darling.

Friday - February 2nd :- My darling, I had a letter from you this evening and oh I was so thrilled. Alas it had been censored and partly obliterated - your long Seng intentions. Darling, there is nothing to say to you except that I love you with all my heart and soul and always will. Goodnight and God bless you Celine.

Saturday - February 3rd :- My own darling, another day nearer to you and freedom. Sometimes I feel so very depressed because I feel that you are not receiving my post cards. I must not despair as so many here have done.

A man burst out crying in the barracks room last night, of course I had to be stern with him for the sake of the other men's morale. God bless you.

Sunday - February 4th :- Darling, we heard lovely records yesterday - Judds and Schuberts "Ave Maria", Haydn's Serenades, etc. I shall love you as long as I live. I have day dreams of walks in the mountains with you. God bless you, Celine.

Monday - February 5th (Yasume) - My darling, Oh what a gale and blizzard is howling outside. I have never felt so cold in all my life. Do you know that it is really possible for me to be home in a few months time. God bless you, Celina

Tuesday - February 6th - My darling, I do love you so very very much to regret and I know that I am yours now forever and ever. Over big crisis is approaching with the imminent fall of Germany - Will the nips pack in and send us home or will they fight to a finish - and we perish here with them. Awful gale to night. God bless you, Celina

Wednesday - February 7th - My own darling, I know now that if I am not a free man in a few months time I shall never see home again - what an awful thought, Celina. To think that I might never see you or home again. Good night and God bless you, Celina

Thursday - February 8th - My darling, I have a frost-bitten thumb and a frozen stiff. Letters yesterday but none for me. Good night and God bless you Celina

Friday - February 9th - My darling, there has been a most awful blizzard tonight and all day today. I appealed for the night workers but they were sent out & you would not send a dog out in such a night. Anglo American tension - I cannot stand the endless bombastic flow of words with lots of ego. God bless you, darling.

Saturday - February 10th - My darling, the blizzard continues but it's not so cold. There were two terrific quakes today - it was thrilling watching the brick chimneys in the cookhouse swaying about from side to side. I still adore you. God bless you Celina

Sunday - February 11th - My own darling, another day nearer to you and freedom. Oh how anxious we all are to have it over and done with. At last the end seems to be forming very soon - in a couple of months. God bless you, Celina.

Monday - February 12th - My darling, we had a lovely walk this afternoon in the Sun. I felt pleasantly tired. Rice ration cut from 700 grams to 500 grams. Very hungry. Hair gave me cake today, bless him. I am reading "The Sun is my handmaid" (Steen). I shall love you forever and ever. Nothing can change me. God bless you, Celina

Tuesday - February 13th - My own darling, another day nearer to you and home. I had day dreams of our visit to India, Malaya, Java, Bali etc which I am planning when we get married. I want with you to Agra to see the Taj Mahal to Kashmir, Singapore, etc. Hoping if only it comes true. God bless you, Celina.

Wed Wednesday - February 14th (Ash Wednesday) - I intend not eating any red cross food or smoking during Lent. I feel that I must do something even in prison because you are doing so much outside. I had a letter tonight July 1943! Darling it's awful the way they hold up letters here. Good night and God bless you, Celina

3 years a P.O.W! 191.

Thursday - February 15th (Yasumi) :- Crake and Asami left today. Thank God, we have quite a crowd of Catholics at Sunday prayers in spite of the cold. Mami made me a lovely chocolate and raisin pudding to night and hot chocolate drink! I was very hungry and enjoyed it very much. Darling, there are about 5 more letters arrived for you. God bless you ^{Cileen}.

Friday - February 16th :- My own darling, the new medical Corporal (Umegi) speaks perfect English; his best friend hails from Belfast! He has snaps at home (Olan) of Belfast. He was a ballet dancer in Tokyo. I do love you. God bless you, Cileen.

Saturday - February 17th :- My own darling, another cold day nears to you. Many now estimate that the war will end in a very few months from now. Remika has written a wonderful essay on Asia - "he has no love for the Dutch" - nor have I, may be I am prejudiced against them - I shall love you always. God bless you, Cileen.

Sunday - February 18th :- My darling, I had such a wonderful dream about you last night - it was the happiest ever. As usual Felix loomed up a lot in the dream. We were so very happy, Cileen, as I always knew we would. Mami made me toast, butter, jam, and milk (but) last night. So night paradise. God bless you, ^{Cileen}.

Monday - February 19th :- My darling, ah! leading on Bomen splendid! It had been bitterly cold today and now I am hungry again to night. I still have wonderful dreams of you and home. Darling, I know that I shall be at home soon with you. God bless you, Cileen.

Tuesday - February 20th :- A P. General came today (the head of all POWs) and ordered the camp as being too easy in prisoner - wants more work and daily (90%). Poor happy had an awful time and lost much face during the inspection. They have now taken over the Red Cross medicines and they now administer them. God bless you, Cileen.

Wednesday - February 21st :- My darling, all I can tell you now and over again is that I love you and that I am yours forever and ever. I know that I shall soon be home with you, my own darling. Still very hungry, but it is kept. God bless you, Cileen.

Thursday - February 22nd :- We had a lovely walk to the station today and back again to see Crake off, but were not allowed inside because General then sent troops to go hit with snipers. Very cold & hungry. Good night and God bless you, Cileen.

Friday - February 23rd :- A blessed blessing to night and oh how I pity the night workers. I appealed to have them come early to night. Ceter pro me o Eiblin conveyed an office - fada Soyr mar a baid an irar coice! Darling do you really love me so much. God bless you, ^{Cileen}.

Saturday - February 24th :- My darling, I love you, but it's too cold to tell you any more. There was a search today by troops but nothing found. God bless you, Cileen.

Sunday - February 25th :- My own darling, Yasumi day, Red Cross parcel 70 lbs! very cold; sent you a card to night. Big crowd at prayers this afternoon. I love you more today than ever before. Good night, Cileen, God bless you.

Monday - February 26th :- My own darling, what a day this has been. About 10 am. a lad was brought back from work with a badly crushed foot - Tommy Keine. We decided to operate on him at the local Japanese hospital. Off we set in a 3 wheeler motor bike with our equipment - Andler, Steens, and myself with Japanese Muneiri and Terasa. Arrived at the hospital we had to remove our shoes and leave them at the entrance. Then we had to wait for 1 1/2 hours for the theatre to be ready. I worked in bare feet in the wet tiled theatre with Andler in wooden slugs. I gave the spinal anaesthetic perfectly and assisted Andler in the operation. We made an awful mess of things with lots of Japanese doctors and nurses watching us. There was obviously nothing that could be done and the foot had to be left more or less as it was. Andler and Steens made a fuss of the nurses but I was too disgusted to notice anything or anybody. I did my part of the job perfectly. We went on a tour of the hospital and found it very up-to-date. We left at 2.30 pm. Our tri-cicle bumped along until we came to a corner but also we did not turn that corner but just went on ahead at full speed and landed in a rough ditch. I was thrown sent in my head; the others escaped with bruises and the patient resumed his second accident of the day. We pulled the bike out hammered it together and came back to camp where Andler put two stitches in my head and swathed me in bandages. Now I have an awful sore head, very cold, and hungry. Turpise has declared war for us! And now I love you as never before. God bless you, Cileen.

Tuesday - February 27th :- My darling, letters to night but none for me. I would love to have a letter from my loved one soon. Oh my Cileen I do love you so much to night and and I will love you always no matter what happens. God bless you, Cileen.

Wednesday - February 28th :- Had a restless night with pains in my neck muscles. A terrific blitz in camp smokes. My Paddy is going out to work tomorrow and Jimmie is taking his place (he is an Anglo-Indian). Andler made a confession to Lutter and me that since his operation on Keine he has been convinced that he is not a surgeon! God bless you Cileen.

Thursday - February March 1st :- A glorious Spring day with the sun shining all the day. I had a lovely dream of you last night, Cileen. I know that I shall love you forever and ever. Keine has temperature and foot not so good. God bless you, Cileen my darling.

Friday - March 2nd :- My darling, some letters to night but none from my darling me. There has been a terrific blizzard all day long, though not so cold. He promised to have the night smokes here early to night. God bless you, Cileen.

Saturday - March 3rd :- My own darling, how are you after all these years? I still dream of you and love you more than ever. I hear God it will all end soon - the headache and the lungings will cease. Good night and God bless you, Cileen.

Sunday - March 4th :- My darling, I had 3 letters and one card from you this evening and so I am very happy. Two contained news of Lorraine and Anne, also Felice, Irma, Gretta and Hugh. I cannot tell you how happy you have made me. It was wonderful to know that Lorraine is well and safe & you can write to her when you please. It was awful

To read about Frank Duff's wife being seriously ill - I didn't even know he was married! Imagine Col. A. being married! Must go to bed, Celia, God bless you.

Monday - March 5th ^{Yasume} - My darling mine I am so very optimistic to night. I know it is only a matter of waiting a few months until we meet again. Felix looks grand in his civilian clothes - I am longing to be in mine again. God bless you, Celia

Tuesday - March 6th - My own darling, I love you so very much to night that I cannot bear to think about it in this prison camp. I wonder if there ever was such loyalty as yours my Celia. I can never be good enough for you. I volunteered to go out in a truck to shoot slag this afternoon in place of Sgt. Stevens (USA) who made no protest! The Camp Commandant sent for me and ordered me not to go but to send Stevens - and so it was. Another was rather ashamed of the American order and even volunteered to go in my place. It was snowing hard and there was slush everywhere. Good night and God bless you, Celia

Wednesday - March 7th - My darling, I am hungry and have a Red Cross food parcel untouched! (for Lent). I wonder till April 1st never come. I doubt it very much. There has been a howling gale all day long. Suspicion has ceased today. Darling please forgive my awful letters these days. Good night and God bless you, Celia.

Thursday - March 8th - My own darling, how I have loved you this day so never before in my life. I know that our union was made in heaven and that it will end there please God and with the help of His Holy Mother. God bless you Celia.

Friday - March 9th - My darling, I love you so very much but I have never been so hungry in all my life before. The war is going great guns now and will soon be over please God and we shall be freed. God bless you, Celia

Saturday - March 10th - My own darling, I had such a lovely dream about you last night and I have loved you more for it. Too cold to write. God bless you Celia

Sunday - March 11th - My darling, there were sneaks of Lent! I think perhaps the hens will be finished by that time. I heard today that most of the men have eaten their emergency ration. All the medical orderlies went to work today for $\frac{1}{2}$ day morning or afternoon. I shall love you, Celia, till I die. God bless you, darling

Monday - March 12th - My darling, the end is surely not far off because the "joints" Cused' God open an prince of coblers. I do love you now so very much my sweet heart's remission of Red Cross in the near future - hardly in April perhaps. Good night & God bless you, Celia

Tuesday - March 13th - My darling, Munk showed me pictures today of Belfast, City Hall, Bird's Eye view, Belleme, Mounse Mountains, Newcastle etc. I felt very homesick and I wanted so very much to see you. God bless you, Celia

Wednesday - March 14th - My darling, I am cold and hungry but I adore you as never before. The end is near and near thank God. May He bless you, Celia
this night

Thursday
Sunday - March 15th :- Yarnum Day, only 15 more days in tent. I have had an awful day and haven't been warm once. Backache and hunger did not improve me much. Darling, I do want you to love me when I get home again. God bless you

Friday
Monday - March 16th :- My darling, we had 220 grams of flour issued each yesterday - I am keeping mine to have a cake made for Easter. To think that tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day and I hoped to be free on that day in 1944. God bless you darling.

Saturday - March 17th St. PATRICK'S DAY :- My darling, I have remembered you so much all the day long. You and Ireland have not left my thoughts for a moment. I made two little St. Patrick's Day cards for Boris and Renecher. They were pleased. Written in top was *Cas Ghoire Dé agus onáire na h-Ceann*; the national flag in the centre; and *Cas Fáilte Fadó* 17ad la, Mína Márta 1946 at the bottom. Renecher will always carry it and show it to his wife and children. God bless you, Cúicín. Germans.

Sunday - March 18th :- This has been quite a momentous day because the *Gaspard* Drapp had peace reports on 15ad la, but of course they will be ignored as *Biccapi* is so near already. I have been reading your letter and mine this afternoon in my room where a lovely Spring Sun was streaming in and I have noticed the sad change in my daily letter to you. In Changi I was happy and carefree; good food, good friends, and Holy Mass with the chapel a few yards off - everything was so pleasant and so unlike a prison camp; but here everything is the direct opposite and this is a prison. But darling in spite of the drawbacks I have not ceased loving you for a moment. God bless you Cúicín

Monday - March 19th :- My own darling, I love you more to night than ever I thought it possible to love anyone. We have been living in rice and sugar stew for months now and it's becoming a bit monotonous! Darling, I hope you are a good look. God bless you, Cúicín

Tuesday - March 20th :- My own darling, I had two wonderful dreams about you last night - one in Belfast and the other in Dublin. We were shopping in Royal Avenue in Belfast and visiting a clinic in Dublin! I also dreamed of an air raid. God bless you

Wednesday - March 21st :- My darling, some of the boys had telegrams to night from home. There is a letter from you dated October and waiting to be answered. Spring has come for a few days and it was 7°C above zero. God bless you, Cúicín

Thursday - March 22nd :- My darling, it seems from the telegrams of last night that the photographs have reached home safely! I hope you weren't too shocked by mine. It has snowed all morning and rained all afternoon - first rain for 6 months but much warmer. I shall love you always, Cúicín. God bless you my darling.

Friday - March 23rd :- My darling, I have had a great success with a case of mine a few nights ago. A night worker had a bad wound to his neck and upper lip. I spent from 1.30 am till 3.30 am on him and got a perfect result with no disfigurement at all. His nose is perfect, though the cartilage was badly torn right through. I had been doing *coolie* work all morning carrying sacks of linden for a sup air raid trench. But still I love you and still am loving you more each day. God bless you, Cúicín

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Saturday - March 24th - My darling, how do you like my new paper? It was bought many years ago in Kwajalein! It has been a hectic day for me because it was Youssef Day. A general is leaving from Tokyo tomorrow morning at 7am. God bless you, Eileen dearest.

Sunday - Annunciation - March 25th - My darling, we had roll call this morning outside for the first time since last Autumn. A general inspected the camp this morning. Bread tomorrow, butter (18 grams) to night. A man with Sgt. Stearns today. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - March 26th My darling, I had a sweet dream about Frances last night. Nothing exciting to day except that I still adore you, my beloved one. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - March 27th My own darling, it is now 10.10 pm and we have just finished air raid and fire practice. Nothing exciting to day except I love you. God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - March 28th My darling, we had a lovely walk in the town afternoon. It was glorious, but oh I was so weary after it - I must be very weak. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - March 29th - Holy Thursday and I haven't been to Communion or had Mass since Christmas Day. Oh if only there was a priest here - what a difference it would make to life here for me. India nupentuz passed! Darling, it cannot be long now. Many letters to night; Andler had three - one dated December 19 44 from his mother. I love you more and more. God bless you Eileen.

Good Friday March 30th - My own darling, I asked you last night to marry me - didn't you hear me? You accepted and we were so very happy together. I am reading "Man of Glory - Simon Bolivar" by Thomas Rowse. It is good to read of Generals O'Leary, O'Connor, and O'Riiggins (Chile President) A glorious sunny day - temperature 50°F. We had stations of the cross and Gospel - followed by kissing the cross at 5 P.M. today. God bless you my own darling.

Holy Saturday - March 31st - My darling, at last Lent is over and I am happy I have done something. I was so very hungry and tempted sorely with my Red Cross food and other dainties which I gave away to hair - sugar, bread, cigarettes, biscuits. It won't be long now! Paddy gave me a present of two packets of chewing gum and one packet of Camels today. I shall love you forever more. God bless you, Eileen

Easter Sunday - April 1st - My darling, never has there been an Easter less like Easter before in my life. Paddy gave me 5 pancakes and tobacco (gold dust) this morning. Have had coffee, milk, and sugar three times today; 3 cigarettes and a few pipes - the pipes were glorious after such a long time! We had Rosary and prayer at 5 P.M. this evening - quite a crowd turned up. If I could only send you a memento of Easter surely how happy it would make me. Darling, you will find me a red hot zeal when I go back home to love you forever. God Bless you Eileen

1981

Easter Monday - April 2nd - My own darling, I had a lovely letter from you to night which told me all that I want to know about you - that you are well and still love me. Do you have been told that we are allowed to send cables to you? Well, in a way we write out forms at very irregular intervals but nobody has ever heard of one reaching home. Mairi gave me a lovely frame pudding today. Officers had bread to night - I gave half of mine to Mairi. Andie and I are making a cake on the 4th and so I am planning a party with Remeker and Mairi for Spasme Day on the 5th. The former sent me two small cakes today. But I love you Celine with all my heart and soul and self. God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - April 3rd - My own darling, I am having a grand time delving into my Red Cross parcel! Mairi gave me three lovely scones to night - just the same as you will make when we are married! You owe a lot to that small Hindu boy. Cold today and not much coal. Rations still poor - rice and onion stew three times a day. Occasionally fish or raw mutton and mico for lunch. I still arise upon as much as ever. Good news today about our advances. God bless you, Celine.

Wednesday - April 4th - My darling, I have had a happy day. Scones and toast & coffee to night! Mairi made a cake this morning and I had half a share in it. Am keeping it for tomorrow to have coffee and cake with Mairi and Remeker. Please darling, excuse all this talk about food. I am sending you a card to night but maybe I'll be home before it reaches you. Oh the longing that is ever in my heart to see you again and see home and Ireland and all our dear ones. I have been a prisoner long enough. God bless you, Celine.

Thursday - April 5th (Easter) - Darling, I had a lovely afternoon party with Mairi and Remeker - Mairi took with Mairi and Mairi. My Celine, we are lucky to have had so much mail between us, because many boys have have had no word from home at all. Hope you are enjoying Easter holidays at home. I'll be loving you always, nothing can change me. God Bless you Celine.

Friday - April 6th - My darling, will this letter go on and on forever or will our good God finish it in the near future? Great things are happening in the big world outside this prison camp - they are happening quickly but not quickly enough for me here. Legs drag on ad infinitum in camp. Maybe I am in love. God bless you Cele.

Saturday - April 7th - My own darling, Mr. an eye see, to an usicapan caize! This is wonderful - "incorabile dictu". It has been a quiet night and a quiet day. I had a wonderful dream about Frances last night. She welcomed me home and I was her guest. She got me a cup of tea without a saucer and made a big fuss about me in a large crowd. She was very proud of me. When I came along too in the dream and I loved you dearly. Your daddy looked up very kindly; he resembled Felix very much and was extremely kind to us both. I am reading a good book about New Hampshire (1769) called "Look to The Mountain" (Le Grand Canyon). Good night and God Bless you Cele.

Sunday - April 8th - My own darling, the coburnez has fallen too. Also the Sobiesz has seened the non-aggression pace with n.p.s. This is yet another step nearer to freedom and peace. Glorious day of sunshine; had some short practice - very good form. I had another dream about you last night. God bless you, Cele.

Monday - April 9th - My darling, the Quad challenged me to some shot putting at the quad room this afternoon and I beat the best man by 15 feet! They were furious and said it was my height which beat them! Now reading Strand Magazine of 1926. Uncle and I are good friends again. How I wish I could see you again and tell you all. God Bless you Cele.

Tuesday - April 10th - My own darling, I had another wonderful dream about you last night. Your uncle and I were coming at Spring Vells - we had entered the hall and you came running out past everybody and flung yourself into my arms. When my darling, you are ever in my thoughts and dreams. Give my whole life for you and you alone. I want to give you happiness that you have never known before in your life. I have given me a tin of precipa undine. God Bless you, Cele.

Wednesday - April 11th - My darling another day and I love you as never before. Still voraciously hungry! God grant that the end will come soon - I can only offer it all up. God Bless you Cele.

Thursday - April 12th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Friday - April 13th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Saturday - April 14th (Pasenuday) - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Sunday - April 15th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Monday - April 16th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Tuesday - April 17th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Wednesday - April 18th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Thursday - April 19th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Friday - April 20th - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Saturday - April 21st - My own darling, Cuata m'e m'ideu zo m'beud m'e
uzup na fir eile ag dul tuaf zo ropopo. Go b'eidimid ag trasup inf
na g'cod m'ner. R'iamid u'caann son no da m'i no map' p'u.

Thursday - April 19th - My own darling, how you imagine what it is like to be shut up like this for over three years - away from you, from home and our dear ones? Sometimes I think it will never end and that I shall never leave this zip unaltered save what a fate that would be. I shall always love you. God bless you, Helen

Friday - April 20th - We had our first bath for a week today. My weight is now 18 kgms - an increase of 0.5 kgm! I am reading "Gornell and Sun" have finished "Harry Lyden". These people are all set for invasion - God help them. God bless you Helen

Saturday - April 21st - My own darling, I still adore you as never before in my life. You mean everything to me and always shall. Oh! that I could but show you how much I love you. Yet may be you are the one person in the whole world who can appreciate the depths of my love. Butter, Mac Graw's in Officers' Canteen today! Gornell and Sun is very soothing just now for me. Andler and I are friends again. God bless you, Helen

Sunday - April 22nd - My darling, Did we say sleep of each other in our camp for 2 years quite a no way sin. This is a bad sign. Bread and butter no fat is commencing. I think this is the beginning of bad times. I had lovely pancakes for supper - thanks to heaven. God bless you, Helen

Monday - April 23rd - My darling, you must be bored reading this awful journal each day in which nothing happens much. Still I must tell you over and over again that I love you dearly - more dearly every day we are apart. We were ordered to pack up the Red Cross medicines - except a months supply! This is very significant of a move. God bless you, Helen

Tuesday - April 24th - My darling, it is all over but the shouting. The new jobs & begins Sunday; to on Saps and 1st. I am sending a card to Spring Villa tonight and it makes me homesick. The big question is when will these people pack in? I pray God it will be soon. God bless you, darling.

Wednesday - April 25th - You're day! Bread in canteen - butter, warm bread, sugar, tea and milk made a lovely afternoon. I think too much about food these days and not enough about you, my darling. But I do love you so very much. Had some real baseball today with bat - good fun. God bless you, Helen

Thursday - April 26th - My own darling, the military guard took over duty today and they have patrolled the place without leaving from early morning. Sudden change in weather - Cold finally the end will come in a few days. I should be happy for all your sakes to know that the European war was over - that is so important to me here, to know that you are all safe from danger. Don't worry about me. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - April 27th - My darling, at least keepen coitce! You know that I shall always love you, no matter what happens out here, Eileen. A miserable day of rain. I am reading Dog Stories - 600 pages of it. What about my dog? God bless you, Eileen.

Saturday - April 28th - My darling, the guards get worse and worse. Buski stopped today. I avoid them entirely. Rained all day but I love you more and more, Eileen. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - April 29th - My darling, another day of torture. This was the Emperor's Birthday but there was no parade. Two apples each! Darning this on better days ahead here when the rain begins. We shall have a horrible time but it will be worth it. God bless you, Eileen.

Monday - April 30th - My own darling, sometimes I think it will never end and that I shall never see you or my mother and aye I know it is wrong to despair like this - I must trust in God and His Holy Mother for deliverance. We now have some awful cereal mixed with rice nowadays. Orbits and carrots in the stew. Mrs. gave me apples today. Paddy gave me cheese yesterday. My hunger always. There are ravenous and are more tempted to steal than ever before. Buski and J. J. had their first food from their pines in Java - they are interested with other civilian than guards not so bad. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - May 1st - My very own darling, at last your big day has arrived again in no jeopardy buskice! fa depread. You can never know what relief this has brought to me - to know that all your worries are over. Good night and God bless you, Eileen.

Wednesday - May 2nd - My own darling, I just want to tell you tonight that I love you now and always shall love you. We have found out that it is all really true. God bless you, Eileen.

Thursday - May 3rd - My own darling, please keep dog my dog in day and. Trust and mine every moment. What enjoyings must be in at home. My heart is too full these days to write. God bless you, Eileen.

Friday - May 4th - My darling, I have been day dreaming about you today. Getting ready for our honeymoon ready for trip to Dublin ready for holidays by the sea, our life together, our love, our home and our happiness. I want to see Dublin again! Please, speedily, day and.

God bless you, my Eileen.

Saturday - May 5th - My darling, a beautiful Yasmine Day. We had a thanksgiving service this evening in our little chapel. I sent off a card to father this evening, no cards from you for ages, Celia. The maps are burning mine I know - new mind. God bless you, Celia.

Sunday - May 6th - My own darling, another day nearer the goal. I have had diarrhoea and so remained my stool today and find that I have Amoebic Dysentery. I have started a course of treatment. Oh if I could only tell you all about it. Five apples each yesterday and one loaf in sauteen! Good bye! God bless you Celia.

Monday - May 7th - My darling, we had word today that Col. Conisto will be here tomorrow. The men are very happy about this. To see Szekla tonight wait away. To Desmaye say hello and goodbye. And say my love to Desmaye and Darnie see? I am loving you now, Celia as never before. God bless you darling.

Tuesday - May 8th (Charles's Birthday R.P.). My own darling, I had a terrific scene with a guard this morning who ordered me to salute. I refused and asked to be sent to the guard room - then he coolly walked away. It was a great moral victory for me. Celia darling, I shall love you as long as there is breath in me. God bless you.

Wednesday - May 9th - My own darling, I had a letter from you this morning dated November 7th last year. You were having a heart's ease in my birthday; you wished me a Merry Christmas and sent all your love. Oh Celia this has made me so very happy this night. How can I compete with a love like yours. God bless you, Celia.

Thursday - May 10th - My own darling, how have you been since yesterday? I love you more and more as the days roll by. We had our lecture from the Colonel today and three times he stressed the fact that it was entirely due to major Murray that this camp was so fit. I felt very flattened indeed. I pointed out two other doctors who were also doing their work with me but he would not leave it at any cost. He has been good to us. God bless you, Celia.

Friday - May 11th - My darling, I am still alive and loving you as never before. I can never love you as much as you love me but I shall do my best. Home today & Patrick. God bless you Celia.

Saturday - May 12th - My own darling, another day nearer. Rained all the day and I still love you more than ever. Home gave me coffee with and puerper - he is good to me. God bless you, Celia.

Sunday - May 13th - My darling, it has been a cold miserable day. Also we have a man in the guardroom who is stirring for the past two days (Woodward). These Darnie have decided to fight on. I wonder how long they can last out. God bless you Celia.

Monday - May 14th - My darling, I have loved you even more today than ever before. There are supposed to be 60 men coming here tonight from Wakefield. God bless you, Celia.

Tuesday - May 15th - A stormy day and I am still loving you more than ever before in my life. The sun has been shining. I have been thinking about my friend Major. Wishes if he has come back to his native land now that it is free again. God Bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - May 16th - My own darling, there is great activity in camp now preparing for a move about 2:15 of the month. As you think I am in Hakodate this move will not make any difference because you won't know about it. God Bless you, Helen.

Thursday - May 17th - My darling, still raining, still miserable. Everything all set for the big move. We are to have our 19 men back from Hakodate to resume moving? God Bless you, Helen.

Friday - May 18th - My darling, our chicken pox case is now a small pox! It is the first I have ever seen. This should stop the projected move very effectively for a few weeks. God Bless you, Helen.

Saturday - May 19th - My own darling, I am still loving you more and more as the days roll by. How can I ever hope to love you enough? How can I ever hope to make up to you all those years of unhappiness that I have caused you? The camp was turned upside down because of the small pox. God Bless you, Helen.

Sunday - May 20th - My darling, we have been quarantined for two weeks ~~at~~ starting yesterday. The men will have complete rest during that time - and some of them need it. God knows. The move will take place immediately afterwards. The patient will be moved to a Japanese hospital to morrow morning and will be accompanied by Moffat and Finucane. Rowker came this evening and showed me snaps of his wife and their wedding. I gave him a little leather note case to keep them in. I still love you. God Bless you, Helen.

Monday - May 21st - My darling, the patient was removed to the Japanese hospital today. His condition was not too bad when he left. Finucane went with him alone. I am reading way of a Franzosier again. We have to examine every man in camp each morning and take their temperatures. P.T. begins to move morning 5:30 - 6 am; 1-130 P.M. and Major Finucane will lead it (orders). God Bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - May 22nd - My own darling, we heard today that P.T. is worse. Finucane is feeling the cold because he went for some warm clothes. Still examining the men daily. I am the most dangerous contact in camp because I handled the patient up to the last moment of leaving camp. It was my duty - I would not see be afraid of any disease. Good night and God Bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - May 23rd - My own darling every day is a holiday and it is no good for the men. They get into too much trouble. I am having a fine time conducting the P.T. twice daily "from my watch tower in the skies" (420 men). God Bless you, Celia.

Thursday - May 24th - My own darling, I am sending you a card to night. Heaven alone knows if these cards will ever reach you now. We have heard that the men start work day after tomorrow. Official Yasmine to tomorrow. God Bless you Celia.

Friday - May 25th - Yasmine day and the last day of rest for most of the camp. Had a long talk this afternoon with George Remick and Wash. Train, continued after supper. Bread today and tomorrow; 80 cigarettes! Love you still. God Bless you Celia.

Saturday - May 26th - Remick brought me lots of peas to night. Darling, you will love him when you know him and learn to know his ways. He is a Quaker and an idealist. We took over Red Cross medicines today! God Bless you, Celia.

Sunday - May 27th - My own darling, these are still days no books to read when it rains. No stone when it is cold. I am loving you more and more each day. Spent the afternoon and evening darning my pullows. Remick brought me a lovely tulip today and bread. Train gave me one day in the afternoon. I am spoiled. God Bless you, Celia.

Monday - May 28th - My darling, we had a parade this evening and the camp Commandant read out Col. Emst's farewell speech. He expressed his sorrow at leaving us so very suddenly. He would like to see us all when the war is over - his friends. There was great gloom in camp. He mentioned about the new camp, the good arrangements he had made for our comfort there. There is talk of post moving the more. God Bless you Celia.

Tuesday - May 29th - My own darling the move is due in 2nd June next. Remick brought me two beautiful tulips today - yellow and pink. Train had a lovely pair of worn trousers made for me today from an old blanket. So, darling somebody loves me a little. God Bless you, Celia my darling.

Wednesday - May 30th - My darling the new Colonel is due tomorrow at 8am for inspection and a speech. Remick and I have decided to make his son, Frampton, a doctor. I am reading Fr. Brown in the mornings and afternoons. God Bless you, Celia.

Thursday - May 31st - My darling, we had awful news to night that Finucane has contracted Small Pox. Poor lad got this from doing his duty. We are moving on June the 1st in two parties, 4am & 11am. The work will be spanning for two months. God Bless you, Celia.

Friday - June 1st - My darling, another day passes and still I am losing you more and more each day. We are losing four blankets each for a few days - its gonna be cold at night. Final arrangements have now been made. God bless you, Helen

Saturday - June 2nd - The men had a good rest today from to morning. Remmie, Mac, and I had a party to night. There wont be many more in however. But I am losing you, Helen as well before in my life and longing for you. God bless you, Helen

Sunday - June 3rd - My dear darling, what a tragic day this has been. There was terrific bustle this morning early morning everything to the railway waggons. Two men were killed last night at a railway level crossing (open) - Sgt. Wray, Sergeant and Cpl. Anzell (Catholic), two of the best men in camp. They were standing on the rails waiting for a goods train to pass when a passenger train came up the line suddenly and crashed into them. Sergeant was almost decapitated, Anzell had a depressed fracture of the skull. I have been sad all the day long. And so our evening conversation was dull. God bless you, Helen

Monday - June 4th - My darling, all the Dutch and 30 British left camp at 6.30 am this morning. Our beds in camp had a quiet day. I was busy with lookhouse, hospital, and seeing the sgt. lieutenant about the move. God bless you, Helen

Tuesday - June 5th - My darling, I am now at my new abode after a terrible day. It began at 1 am in the lookhouse seeing the food divided out. Reveille and breakfast at 3 am. Left camp at 4.40 am all loaded up. Untraining was awful - chaos everywhere, nothing arranged anywhere. The journey was dull because blinds were down most of the day. I was with brush all day. Finally we arrived at Arribata where terrific crowds greeted us. Then we took a second edition of the long Guilly Railway and after much bumping

came to Nisi Arribata (a local mining village) where more crowds greeted us. Four horses and carts met us and loaded our heaviest stuff. We marched three miles up hill & down dale over lovely country and finally reached the camp where Delahaye and George met us and helped us along. There was more chaos as we stood in the rain for 2 hours & later sorting out the baggage. And now to bed. God bless you, Helen

Wednesday June 6th - Darling, this is a brand new camp and very good for the men - they have better quarters but the officers have poor accommodations - 6 of us all in one room. There are 86 new men from Canada, Advocate and they are terribly weak - I spent the whole day with them, there are few such parades for them alone. There are beautiful wooded hills all around us here and the men should be healthier and safer here than in Munoran. God bless you, my darling child.

Thursday June 7th - There is a coal mine not far away from here and it is expected the men will work there. The camp is still being built but is now much cleaner. The latrine and wash places are small - this is bad. Another bad day with the sick. George and Kinist came. God bless you Ellen.

Friday June 8th - My darling, at last things are settling down and today has been quiet. I am doing much microscopic work. The men are working in the farm at present, but are expected to do other work very soon. George and Kinist visit me every evening after evening roll call. Good night and God bless you Ellen.

Saturday June 9th - My darling, I am meant to open even though I am farther away in the wilderness. Much fewer men sick now thank God. The new lot are improving in spite of neurasthenia and nervous complaints! The men start work at the factory tomorrow - lumber, local dentists, electricians and one volunteer for low temperature carbonisation (stove for coal). God bless you Ellen.

Sunday June 10th - My darling, it has been a miserable day - rained without ceasing. The men had a bad meeting coming back from work - four miles of bad muddy road. This communal life is not too good for me at times. George was ill today. He has not been detailed for work yet. God bless you, Darling.

Monday June 11th - My darling, another dull day as a POW. Had a row with Kinist and some of our working sick men in camp. Explained that I was only a prisoner at present etc. I am losing you mine and more each day we are parted. God bless you Ellen.

Tuesday June 12th - My darling, I have been so mad today because they made the sick work. Lutter and I were outside for awhile today, it was heavenly. God bless you Ellen.

Wednesday June 13th - My darling, it has been a glorious gasmine day, blue sky, hot sun, my first success of the season. George and I resumed the future together. Darling, it might be a long time yet before we meet. God bless you, Ellen.

Thursday - June 14th - My darling, it has rained all day and the wind is terrific. Came George's report which shows again his constant malady returns. Nurse & his son & his wife, both reunion again. The 3rd man again one, a Cuban. Beaumont's dia one, and Miss ^{Costa}.

Friday - June 15th - My own darling, it has been a heavenly day and oh how I longed to be at home this day with you and all our dear ones. It is in such a day when the sun shines and the hills are so green and fresh that I long to be with you. I have that yearning at my heart to be with you again and love you always. I have my old stomach trouble again and so I am not having supper. There is a plague epidemic among the humans near by. God bless you, Ellen.

Saturday - June 16th - Another glorious day my darling; I fasted for 30 hours and had supper, but it has cured me + the doctor's oil! Paddy gave me a tin of butter today but asked for cigarettes for it! He has pleased me with tea all day long. I read Sam's play "Dear Brother" today and now I am starting "Quality Street". God bless you, Ellen.

Sunday - June 17th - Moffat came back yesterday and brought two letters to my dear ones. They were happy and well. Darling, it is the day again and I am thinking of you in the throes of your exams at school and then glorious holidays by the sea. Oh my Ellen how I do miss you and all the precious time I am wasting in this prison camp. It seems criminal. But we love each other and put our trust in God, so that nothing else matters. God bless you, darling.

Monday - June 18th - My darling, the weather is glorious and oh what a difference it makes to life here. I had some trouble today because I refused to send sick men to work, they had been in the open room for twenty days on half ration. God bless you, Ellen.

Tuesday - June 19th - My own darling, I had such a lovely dream about home last night. Father, mother, all the family were so surprised at my return. It was Christmas time and we all went to midnight mass at the Poor Clares convent. The convent gate looked magnificent with the graceful archway. The Chapel was beautiful. And now I am awake and bemused. Have been giving injections for two days now. God bless you, my darling.

Wednesday - June 20th - My own darling, it has rained all day and oh I have been mad with rage because they are now classing the sick out to work. Nothing can sadden me more than that and they know it well. Thank God it cannot last forever. God bless you, darling.

Thursday - June 21st - More rain today. I went out digging a deep latrine trench today and loved every moment of it. I am teaching English to Remmer. Dreamed of you again. God bless you, Ellen.

Friday - June 21st My darling, my tiny hands are blessed from digging this morning and afternoon. We have now dug down about 7 feet. Caring mind and rocks. Darling, I am loving you now as I have never loved you before. God bless you, Ellen.

Saturday - June 22nd My own darling, I have been digging for hours today in the rain and oh I am tired. My hands are in an awful mess but I am happier because my day passes quickly. George went to work today. I still love you, Ellen. God bless you, darling.

Sunday - June 23rd - Spore Day, and it has rained all the day. I had a busy morning with sick parades and a meeting. The afternoon was spent in a lowshed teaching ^{some} English. Thank God I have found a friend in this camp - someone I can speak to and open my heart to. It is bad to have no friend. God bless you, Ellen.

Monday - June 25th My darling, I am more optimistic today than I have been for a long time. Sometimes I feel sad, isolated, and pessimistic hidden away up in this valley in the hills. I have worked hard all day digging and at last the pit is nearly finished. The tower is now completed. There are many sick. God bless you, Ellen.

Tuesday - June 26th My darling, at 11 am this morning I was informed that I had to pack and leave camp at noon to go to a new camp. Somehow I managed the packing assisted by Wain and Andler; had a mouthful of me and dashed off to march to the station with Andler, Butler, and Wain + Henke. All my men lined up outside and I shook hands with them all as I passed down the aisle - there was some weeping! Arrived in town we were passing the time taken all the boys broke loose and climbed out to say good bye - George and Selbaze were in the lead. It looks me up. The trip was uneventful and I had a short trudge at this end. The new camp is a foul place - stinking and in a hollow. 150 Prussian Prussian Troops + 10 American from Jauran are here. Their spirit is good. They are all Germans and I have met them before in Charge - 80th A/Regt, 5 Field, 155 F. Regt. Signals. They are packed like sardines! I have the best room lead to sleep in. Five officers are here - have known them before. God bless you, Ellen.

Wednesday - June 27th My darling, I had a bad night. No sign of my two boxes yet. We had an air raid practice today. All patients + we in a tunnel. Many men sick. I still adore you darling. Good night and God bless you, Ellen.

Thursday - June 28th - My own darling, I have had a better day - many sick men tonight. Went to the Japanese hospital today to examine a stool for Amoeba - it was positive too. I want to love you more and more each day. God bless you Celen.

Friday - June 29th - My own darling, I had a glorious scene with a guard this evening. He was beating up an American and I went for him much to the amusement of everyone! I have had a busy day - have checked all the medicines and they are in a sorry mess. I still love you, Celen. God bless you day.

Saturday - June 30th - My own darling, all my hat amused today and oh it was funny to see it come in the gate and even more so when it was checked. A quiet day. God bless you, Celen.

Sunday - July 1st - A busy day with medical inspections etc. Fewer men sick today. The weather is glorious. I had two notes from Knick yesterday - and he is very sad. God bless you, darling.

Monday - July 2nd - My darling, I did my washing this morning - shirt, trousers, and towel - and they have never been so clean before! I have been reading Knick's two letters again and I think he is very sad about my leaving. I sent note to Knick, Remaker, and Knick through U. he was very nice about it. That was a few days ago. A quiet day. Read the White Cliffs of Dover. God bless you Celen.

Tuesday - July 3rd - My darling, I am still in love with you and still loving you as always. I can never love you enough. It has been a quiet day with no serious battles. God bless you, Celen.

Wednesday - St. Goat fixed my clock (again) and my pocket watch.

Wednesday - July 4th My own darling, I am still all yours and always will be. I had another lecture evening depending the sick. I saw a man knocked down by a horse bus today. This is the American Independence Day. God bless you, Celen.

Thursday - July 5th - I had coffee & cigarettes for a American. My darling, when this war will be over? It has gone on for ages it seems but I am prepared to wait till the end no matter how long that may be. The rumour were kept out till 8.30 P.M. tonight from 6 am. this morning. I shall always love you. God bless you, Celen.

Friday - July 6th - My own darling, we had a wonderful surprise tonight - 2/3 was parcel Red Cross each. Mysterious news all day long - we cannot make it out! Rained all day. Nurses came back at 8.30 P.M. God bless you Celen.

Saturday - July 7th - My own darling, I am now in a new camp. All officers are now sleeping with the men in a new barrack room. There is a French Canadian doctor here called Lynch, but he is a Jew. ^{Catholic} The hospital is poor. There are now 281 men here - 114 Americans and the rest British. They have come from China - Hong Kong, Shanghai and others. There are four R.A.M.C. doctors here. God bless you, Helen.

Sunday - July 8th - My darling, we are only 2 kilometers from the old camp. It rains all day. The men have back for the times at 8.30; supper 9pm; tanks at 9.30; lights out at 10pm. Poor lads have to get up at 5 am. and the food is poor. There is not even time for sick parades. These lads bring wonderful boxes from the South of the Cassinette. God bless you, Helen.

Monday - July 9th - My darling, rain all day; no work until late at night and then a hard work and terrible into bed. What a place for mud. God bless you & God bless you Helen.

Tuesday - July 10th - My darling, things are settling down wonderfully and our new camp should be quite good. New paths are made. Our camp is now 281 strong - 114 Americans (most from Wake & China). God bless you Helen.

Wednesday - July 11th - Yasmine Day, and the boys had a grand rest. The Americans kit arrived in huge quantities. The japs were amazed. I read Oscar Wilde's "De Profundis". Darling, I shall always love you come what may. You love to keep me alive for these last few months of my captivity. How can I ever love you enough for that alive. God bless you Helen.

Thursday - July 12th - Ah, my own darling, I am still here for another glorious 12th but please God the next one will be spent with you. There are 3 Irishmen in this barrack room. O'Toole, Kennedy, and Fitzgerald - we have some grand talks about Dublin Croke Park! Darling, sometimes I find it hard to contain myself, when I think of home and what I am missing with you. It seems so unfair to ask you to wait so long for me. God bless you, Helen.

Friday - July 13th - My own darling, the men are now on the night shift and they are having a rotten time - long hours. The new comers' kit still pours in in us - terrific trousers etc. It is awful to see sick men being sent down the mines - I scream about it, but nothing happens. I adore you, God bless you, Helen.

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Saturday - July 14th - My darling, air raids today for the first time in this island. We had to sit all day in a barrack room. A mad rush for sick parades in the evening. Mervale is huge. God bless you Cileen

Sunday - July 15th - Another day sitting around in the barrack room but we realize that it is worth while, so we don't mind a bit. We suspect that the lads have arrived at last. God bless you, Darling.

Monday - July 16th - My darling, it has been a glorious day. I dreamt it was all over and that I was on my way back home to you. One of the guards is seriously ill and so they try to blame us for it which is typical of them. He was sent to hospital in the morning. God bless you Cileen

Tuesday - July 17th - My darling, the days go by quickly and my imagination is that they are bringing me news and news to you in every way. I have such wonderful day dreams about our future together and oh what happiness they bring me. Even in this barrack room with 60 men I can still be alone with you. I am always by your side. I adore you. God bless you Cileen

Wednesday - July 18th - Darling, an American business corps woman officer called Carlson gave me a lovely warm Red Cross sweater today. The Americans have been more than generous with their clothing they fixed all the British lads up well. God bless you Cileen

Thursday - July 19th - Another day near, Cileen, and I am loving you more and more. S. Maj. Davis, an American business gave me a beautiful towel and two khaki bandkerchiefs today. I am being reported. But I still love you, darling. God bless you.

Friday - July 20th - The Japanese doctor has been here for two days checking Red Cross medicine and hospital food. There has been much checked out which we shall never see. Total 126 boxes! What a load! We do miss that. God bless you Cileen

Saturday - July 21st - My darling, I had a present of two lovely khaki bandkerchiefs today from S. Maj. Davis. Chief Young gave me a small towel. I have so much stuff now. All men washed today. I am now 74 kgs (-4 kgs in a month) and oh I am hungry! Things are better in sick parades since an complaint. God bless you Cileen

Sunday - July 22nd - My darling, I washed two sheets this morning! Please, Cileen, may I wash the sheets when we are unaccommodated? Things are not very exciting, but I have time to love you. God bless you Cileen

Monday - July 23rd - My own darling, I had a wonderful dream about you last night. There was a mine accident to night and I did a perfect job on an American's face 6 stitches. Lynch congratulated me on the best work. God bless you Cileen

Tuesday - July 24th - My darling, at last I have won my point and it is I who decides what men should go down the mine. Also there is something happening at last about Sam's letter. There is a lovely news from the camp - wooded hills, and a board news which is one of the camp's necessities. Scolding, yet another dream about you. I am very optimistic these days and I love you. God bless you, Celee.

Wednesday - July 25th - My darling, may be it is the glorious weather - day and night - but oh I am feeling more cheerful because I think the end cannot be far away now. I rest today for ages looking down at the mine and dreaming of you. God bless you, Celee.

Thursday - July 26th - My darling, I am studying physiology and surgery - the latter in case of emergency and the former in case I need it in practice later. It is good to know all about psychology especially when we have our own home and children. God bless you.

Friday - July 27th - 30 men + 1 officer + King's Legion went off to work in a farm 10 miles away. They are due back in August 10th. The weather is glorious and I am still in love with you. God bless you Celee.

Saturday - July 28th - My darling, I am still temporarily optimistic and here so each day. The mine brings me great consolation because then I can be alone with open and nature. God bless you, Celee.

Sunday - July 29th - My darling, I had a lovely dream about you and Frances last night. Roland was very handsome. Frances confided in me that she was going to have another baby! She hadn't told anyone else, not even you, Celee. I did an expert extraction under local anaesthesia with bad prospects today. God bless you, Celee.

Monday - July 30th - My darling, the weather is glorious and so are my dreams. I am still hoping to be home for Christmas! What it be wonderful when it is all over. I often try to imagine what it will be like, but it is too painfully lovely. God bless you, Celee.

Tuesday - July 31st - My darling, another day of glory, another month nearer to you. I have done five perfect dental extractions in the past four days. The local people are amazed at my dexterity. My case of the same injury to an American's (Temporary) face has healed perfectly and will leave no scar. I still love you darling. God bless you Celee.

Wednesday - August 1st - Yarnum's Day, and I have been working all day long. But I did have time this evening to visit my friend. The mine - just at dusk, I can be so very near you, the darling. Thank God things are going well nowadays here. God bless you, Celee. Two men escaped from the mine camp and were away from 17th - 26th July. We have been warned not to attempt to do so.

Thursday - Aug 2nd - My darling, I have the great luxury of a hot bath at 5.15 am every morning. I am the only one who can be bothered. I am feeling much better these days. And oh what optimism is within my heart. God bless you, Celee.

- Friday - August 20th - Darling, I am kept busy depending the American here and I am doing alright. I am friendly with Sgt. Hall and Cpl. Timpary. They are both quite literary subjects. I am loving you with every breath I take and it will always be so. God bless you. Eileen
- Saturday - August 21st - My darling, the weather is terrifically hot. I stitched another man this morning. The suturater said that I had a very good record in Minoran. I shall always love you. God bless you. Eileen
- Sunday - August 22nd - My own darling, I have been a bit blue today but that's only because I have not enough work to do. I put bits of it in a lady's scalp this morning - mine accident. God bless you. Eileen
- Monday - August 23rd - My darling, I think it is much nearer the end than anyone here realizes. The temperature is now 98° F. to hot in this valley. But I do love you. God bless you. Eileen
- Tuesday - August 24th - Dido and I cured me species in a pumpkin and prote on pasta. I had a wonderful time and I was well supported by the gang. God bless them. I still adore you, Eileen. I shall adore you for ever and ever. God bless you, Eileen.
- Wednesday - August 25th - Darling, I have fever and diarrhoea but have managed to keep out of bed. Had a night call last night - man fell down a 50 ft. shaft in the mine. Hurrah success. Oh how I am longing to see you again, Eileen. God bless you, darling.
- Thursday - August 26th - My darling, there are raid alarms today but no sign of any planes as yet. I am still going strong but feel a bit wobbly about the knees. But I love you even more. God bless you. Eileen
- Friday - August 27th - My darling, I have been sitting by the mine and dreaming of you and home and the wonderful times that lie ahead of us. It makes me so deliciously happy, Eileen, that I could almost say, We shall be so happy. God bless you. Eileen
- Saturday - August 28th - My own darling, it has been rest day and I feel much better. I am on a course of Carbazine. One of the boys gave me a Chesterfield cigarette this morning. I lay in the sun during the afternoon and loved it and you. God bless you. Eileen
- Sunday - August 29th - My own darling, we had a bit of excitement today when a bad called miles pretended to go snare and escape. We saw smoke in the camp. I do love you. God bless you, Eileen
- Monday - August 30th - My darling, it has been cold and miserable and oh it is so much today that I feel a prisoner. But I am nearer to you than ever before and loving you more and more. God bless you. Eileen
- Tuesday - August 31st - I aspirated fluid from Nelson's chest this morning - he has had pleurisy. The 30 gardeners came back from the Country this morning. Capt. Lynch and Carney are here. They had a rather time in the Country. God bless you, Eileen
- Wednesday - August 1st (Assumption) - A quiet day darling, and oh I do feel you nearer to me. To still be all our own. I shall love you forever and ever, Eileen. My heart. God bless you, Eileen

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Thursday August 14th - Continued - The Emperor made a speech at noon today and oh it means a lot. Capt. Francis and I were called to his office and told that the mine work would cease forthwith! The reason given was that there is a typhus epidemic outside. Of course this is rubbish! Darling, I imagined that this was true! Oh what wonderful news if it is true. The mines brought back the same news. The street lights are now lit up, no air raid alarms. Grand opera 6 hours daily, new library and games, good food, new officers mess!!

Friday August 15th - My darling, the evidence grows and grows. The Guards admit that the war is over! We are overjoyed and though we have not got definite news we are in grand spirits. I cannot really believe that it is all over and that soon we shall be together. God bless you.

Saturday August 16th - My own darling, I had four wonderful letters from you this evening - Dec. 22nd & Feb. 25th, March 17th and 26th. Oh how very very happy I am this night. My cup of joy is overflowing. More and more evidence becomes available. Darling you know that I shall be home to you as soon as ever I possibly can. The trains are lit up, no black out. Up at 6 am, bed at 9 pm! God bless you, Cileen.

Sunday August 17th - My own darling, the evidence grows and grows - all men now having vitamins daily. I had a grand time giving evidence of 4. Mustards - Stealing etc. The lads are all excited. I have tried to picture what your feelings are now. God bless you Cileen.

Monday August 18th - My own darling, today we were given Red Cross parcels - one between 10 men. The lads went wild with delight. The medical office and store were handed over to me today as a result of my indictment of the big medical staff - the latter have cleared out. The suspense is becoming awful and it must be even worse for you, Cileen. I lay awake for hours at night thinking of you and our future. I just want to see you again so soon as possible. Darling, you will not now be going back to Omagh again because soon you will be Mrs Murray. I love you, God bless you Cileen.

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Monday - August 20th My own darling, I had two hours sleep last night - all the time thinking of you and home. Then began a hectic day which has just ended at 8 P.M. Suck parasites. Dental extraction. minor operation - removal of a cyst from a local's face. I did a perfect job. He had no pain and went around showing everyone the cyst. I played some baseball with the team and had some shot putting. Then came endless working up of medical records and ending with checking and packing dental equipment. And all the time I have been dreaming of you, my darling, and our plans. I should love to live at Beechwood if that is at all possible. If not well then I should consider Helen's proposal to join up with him. God bless you, Helen.

Tuesday - August 21st My own darling, we had information that the war is over. The boys went wild with joy, but it left me unmoved because I was always surrounded. I hope for your sake, Helen, that you will not be kept long in suspense about my safety. You know how I feel. God bless you, Helen.

Wednesday - August 22nd My own darling, the commandant gave two bottles of beer to the officers last night! Oh what a change - what sweetness! All the Americans are asking for my address today and we have many invitations to New York, Florida, California, Iowa etc. It is all very flattering as I have only known them a few weeks. God bless you, Helen.

Thursday August 23rd My darling, Munkie came today and confirmed the news. They had awful trouble at Murova camp - the men broke loose. There were demonstrations in plenty. He said we should be leaving here in about 1 week's time. God bless you, darling.

Friday - August 24th Yesterday the men became very troublesome and demanded more food and cigarettes. Luckily their requests were granted. Today was outstanding. This morning we were all in parade and Jendo told us the war was over and would we drink a toast with him. All the men agreed to drink God bless me, and we all drank sake to our victory. Then we gave 3 cheers for the Allies, followed by cheering and the stars sang the Banner, while the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes were unfurled. It was a wonderful scene. Then the Americans had their flag unperling ceremony. Later the British had theirs. I was in command of the unperling ceremony and gave all the orders. Then Col. Gristo arrived and was given a big reception. He made a speech and we all drank beer as a toast. In his speech he paid great tribute to a certain Major Murray and I think you would be proud, Helen, to hear that I had done my job well. Then we had lunch (the officers) with Col. Gristo and Jendo. It was a no nice meal with lots of beer and good conversation. But at his right hand,

Then we had some soup - mostly community kunging. I
bring "Mountain of Medicine" and believe me of all those
endearing young Chams. The Col. said we would meet again
at Mahodate before we embarked in the near future. He
took a letter to Dr. Airdler for me. We now have 10 cigarettes
a day, lots of food, more beer to night. We put 3 large
P.O. signs on our roofs with our flags. We are to expect
American planes from tomorrow with Red Cross food which
will be dropped by parachute! The boys are excited. Jimmy
Hall and I are great friends now. All the time I am loving
you more and more as the time draws near. God bless you.

Saturday August 25th My own darling, nothing much today. No
planes came but the boys were waiting. We had sweet
peaches and jam rolls to night! It is awful to see the
Japanese doctor now - talking to me. I paid a song sung in
the barracks room to night. I love you. God bless you, Helen.

Sunday August 26th My own darling, I saw today American
planes for the first time. They dropped Red Cross food on my old
camp and on the officers' camp. We expect to have our parcels
tomorrow. The lads were very disappointed. This waiting is
becoming very irksome, and I am longing more and more to
be with you. Darling, the journey will take about 4 months
- isn't that terrible? Please meet me as arranged. God bless you Helen.

Monday August 27th Darling, it rained all day long; no
planes came. The men are calling out for cigarettes; no
word of our release. We had each a tin of ~~orange~~ oranges
last night; four cigarettes to night. Oh this waiting is
awful, Helen. A stock cable was sent today. God bless you

Tuesday August 28th My darling, this has been the most
wonderful day since I became a prisoner. This morning I had
three loads from you, and one letter, card from your
daddy, and my father sent a letter. Darling, I am so glad you
received my letter, my cards and my broadcast message. I had
a letter from Mrs. Airdler who sent your letters here. And then
came 5 B-29s flying low over the camp and dropped
a terrific amount of food, chocolate, candy, cigarettes
and everything you could think of to eat, boots and
clothing. Also the food killed a Korean woman and
seriously injured another; five others injured too. That rather
dampened our ardour; but oh those planes were lovely. I have
eaten chocolate and candy till I was sick. I have smoked Camel,
Crested Fields; and Kentucky Strikes; we have read Time & Life magazines
We had prisoners to night too. And I adore you. God bless you Helen.

Wednesday - August 29th

My darling, I had a narrow escape from drowning today in the river. Some lads were stranded on the other side of the river.

I volunteered to swim across with 3 other boys with a line. We reached them in spite of the terrifically strong current however the line broke and I was swept downstream with another boy clinging to the line. Can you imagine such force which made it impossible to hold on to the line? All this time I was filling up with water! I just made the near bank in the nick of time - exhausted. I am still having eyes as never before. Having good time. God bless you, Celine

Thursday - August 30th

My darling, the planes came today again and dropped lots of food - breakfast, lunch, and supper rations, fruit salads, cigarettes, chocolate, gum, tobacco etc etc. The paratroops were all lovely colours and thank God nobody was hurt this time. The men are in terrific form. The amount of clothing I have is unbelievable now. The International Red Cross Delegate, with Swiss and Swedish consuls came today and we had talks with them. We are to leave next week. God bless you Celine cables are to be sent as soon as we embark at Hakodate. We are all to receive souvenirs before we leave Japa. Good night darling.

Friday - August 31st

My darling, we were allowed outside the camp today to a football ground. There was a game of baseball and I joined in with the Americans. I was the only one to make a home run. Then I had a spot of football and did well. The locals were delighted. All the children had shaving cream and were happy. I gave 1000 cc intravenous Dextrose to Paddy Kennedy this morning. Diagnosed two amoebic dysentery cases. What a day. Had my soap taken 4 times today - twice with the officers and twice with Jimmy Hall, Harrison, Monk, and Paul Jess. I am still adoring you. God bless you Celine

Saturday - September 1st

My darling, I had a glorious outing today on a truck. Went to Hise Arisetsu to the officers' camp with clothing. Met Lt. Cndr. Polkinton Commander of the Petrel, two Royal Scots officers, an Australian Colonel, and all the American officers - Col. Ashurst and Major Brown. An Aussie priest (Pius) was there too and he gave me a letter from Fr. O'Mahoney. The former has not got any mess equipment. Then we went to my old camp with the priest. Darling I had a very wonderful reception from the boys - the whole camp turned out and cheered without ceasing and everyone shook hands with me. The Americans with me were amazed and have told all the people here about it. Dr. Andler was never thinner; hair and knuckles were very happy to see me and so was Delaney

Broski and Kettle alone remain. They have the radio going all day and night and have the latest San Francisco news. Merle had sent a sergeant to the head camp to demand my transfer to his camp again! I would dearly love to go back again. Paddy Mc Elligott was there to welcome me and so was Porter (my Smallpox case). Oh I felt so very homesick and yet I was torn between two loyalties - these boys want me to stay here! We did not stay long. Andler gave me last night's news bulletin which thrilled the boys here. The news in the green countryside made me happy and long to be home with you to experience the joys of freedom. The boys had been to town and bought Souvenirs. It has been a glorious day - two cards from you, Eileen, at the old camp dated January and April. I love you more than ever. God bless you, Eileen.

Sunday - September 2nd (Annie's Birthday) :- My own darling, I am in Nisi Aribetui again. I came here this afternoon with Lt. Reese and though I had no luggage I decided to stay here permanently! This morning at Akakeva the Japanese staff and guards left our camp and told us we were no longer prisoners. And now I am here with the boys and they are happy. Andler, Nani, Broski, and I went to the company's club in the town to night; had a terrific dinner under beautiful conditions. The company (Nitsui Co.) manager, and directors were all present. Speeches and toasts were made. We had whiskey, beer, rum etc.; cocktails; creme-de-menthe. The dinner sets were really beautiful - china ware and lacquer. We came back at 10 P.M. God bless you.

Monday - September 3rd :- My darling, I had a hectic day - sick parades, clothing, hospital. Jerry Matthews arrived this morning with all my things, bless him. He wanted to stay, poor lad. Charney and Thoroughgood came with him. We gave him good coffee. He saw immediately that I was needed here. We had several officers to visit us today - all American pilots and grand chaps. At 4 P.M. we all paraded and hoisted the British, American, and Dutch flags; and sang the National Anthems. There was a morning parade when Dr. Andler handed over to me again. I made a speech and said how happy and proud I was to see them again; I was proud of their good discipline and order. I asked them to keep it up and show the Nips that we were civilized and that there would be no incidents until we had boarded our ship at Hakodate. I proposed to arrange organized walks with a W.O. in charge of each party. This proved a great success. There are swimming parties also. We had our photographs taken - I with two parts of the British troops and once with the hospital staff and Group 5. Darling I have my own room now and so Nani and George had to go with me to night. I am still in love with you. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - September 4th :- My darling, another day of waiting and now it appears we must wait till 9th before we can hope to leave. Somehow I am having a chance of writing up the atrocious history of this camp. Jerry Matthews came today with my mess gear. More planes have been over the other camp (101) today, so we are expecting a windfall to morrow. I have Kenner and Masi with me every night for a couple of hours and it is good for me.

Wenki had cocoa with us to night. The big party is due to morrow night. Wenki has promised to buy me a Souvenir in Sapporo to morrow. Darling, I am longing to be with you and see you again. How about our honeymoon? It will be too cold to have me at home. Good night and God bless you, Ellen.

Wednesday - September 5th :- My darling, another hectic day. New football pitch laid out and a match was played this afternoon among two groups. A new case of Anselmic Dysentery - in Potosi Wlyte. Medical Officers and orderlies were given a wonderful dinner at the club to night. I sang "mountains of home" and believe me if all these hideous young thaws. God bless you, Ellen.

Thursday - September 6th :- My darling, a B29 came this morning and dropped two loads of food with beautiful parachutes. Mine was damaged. Awful trouble with Col. Ashurst on the plane. Man went down to him and was almost arrested by him - they want some of the food and every camp has had much more than their boys here. Darling, the proudest moment of my life came at 5 P.M. this evening when 350 ^{men} paraded and gave me an address. It is a beautiful document signed by all the men and I shall always treasure it. Three truck loads of beer, biscuits, Sake, meat, and food came from Sapporo today. At 7 P.M. tonight Kivate handed over all the rifles, swords, and bayonets + equipment to Capt Boski, Dr. Andle, and myself. To night George, Wink, and I had a party - fruit pudding, beer, Sake, cigarettes, peaches and tinned oranges. Kivate presented each officer with a nice picture with a red lacquer frame. It will be a lovely Souvenir. Please pray that our wait will not be long. God bless you Ellen.

Friday - September 7th :- My darling, I had a terrific day. Dr. Andle went off to Sapporo this morning. We took over the camp formally today and signed for everything. Sick parades and visiting officers rather upset my morning - not to mention many petty cases of discipline. I went to the Chinese camp this afternoon; demanded that it be handed over to the Chinese officers; asked for more food and clothing. Lt. Lewis gave me great help with his report on our visit. Conditions were appalling. Examined all the hospital patients, and promised them medicine. We hope to give

then clothing and cigarettes to tomorrow morning. Those poor creatures were so glad to see us. A truck load of clothing arrived to us just from the main camp. I rang up Capt. Baumgartner this morning and invited him to come here for a day. I discovered that they received no Red Cross medicines at the main camp - there were 120 boxes at Okahara. Remke and Mair had apple juice, beer, biscuits, lentils, Gum, and cigarettes with me to night. I can never love you enough my own darling. God bless you, Helen

Saturday - September 8th - My darling, this morning I had early Rick parade and set off with our party to the Chinese camp with clothing, cigarettes, and sweets etc. We had a terrific welcome. All the stuff was dumped in the square and divided. Then we conferred in the office with the Japs and the Chinese officers. They agreed to more food - nice issue; the vegetable garden to be handed over to the Chinese for their own use; 320 uniforms to be issued; medical treatment to be improved; more frequent battles; that the Chinese hoist their national flag over the camp. I went to the hospital armed with dressings and medicines; I fixed them up as best I could; gave them some canned meat etc.. They were very happy. Then we had the flag ceremony when 400 Chinese in perfect order lined up with their officers and HCO's in front; 30 British with myself in front. All saluted as the flag was slowly hoisted. Chinese then sang their national Anthem; gave 3 Cheers. All were then dismissed amid great jubilation. A messenger came from camp to say that Wynd, Capt. Brown, and Capt. Baumgartner had arrived in camp. I dash off with Mair and met them. They had arrived in the Colonel's Car! All were in grand spirits. Major Wilson and another Australian Captain were also with us - + Lt Lewis of U.S. Air Corps. All stayed to lunch and we had a grand time with our frittered pumpkin. Capt. Brown did some dental work and all went off at 2.30 pm. Lt Lewis remained to make a report on the Chinese Camp. Three more American Officers arrived and we gave cocoa and biscuits + lentils! Mair is busy feeding all these people nowadays. Phone call from Sapporo - Mair is in Grand Hotel, Amoy back to night. Staying in the club to night! I am allowing all the men to visit town in a pass starting tomorrow morning; we are to have ~~an~~ ^{an} M.P. & guard in town daily. Mair, George, and I had beer, biscuits and lentils to night. We have wonderful evenings together, and sometimes I wish they would last even at the expense of living here. It is growing colder each day - thank God we shall not see the winter here. I love you, darling. God bless you Helen

Sunday - September 9th - My darling, Dr. Audler came back this morning in awful pain. He was laden with pictures. Mairi carried back my \$700 sword. The blade is beautiful but the rest of it is poor.

Remkes gave me a lovely *Amia* black bear. We had the CE parade to lunch, he had a service in the afternoon. I visited the Chinese camp in the after noon with Pan and Hayes. Things are very good up there nowadays. They are all very happy. Remkes presented me with a fan. I also have a Saki bowl; Sgt Murphy gave me some lovely photos of Amia. Remkes and Hain were here to night and we have a lovely evening with Sake, and presents (+ letters). And Remkes has written you a lovely letter of introduction. And I am still loving you as never before. Good night & God bless you, Eileen

Monday - September 10th :- My darling, we are on the move in a day or two. 200 men + patients & Dr. Anders are standing by ready to move by train to Tsetow whence we will be flown to Yokohama; then flown to Iwamata via Okinawa! Then home by air. Isn't it wonderful, Eileen, to think that I shall be seeing you soon again? I have sat up all night waiting with Remkes and Hain for the move, but the American officers did not show up. I shall always love you my own darling child. God bless you, Eileen.

Tuesday - September 11th :- My darling, the boys went off today night on train. Many planes came over today and dropped coffee, milk, sugar, 500 packets of cigarettes; also a transmitter-receiver radio. We communicated with them by air. They gave a wonderful display. Then came the relief men - Major Miles, and another Captain & a Sergeant. They gave us all the dope. And now we are due to leave tomorrow evening at 6 P.M. plane leaves at noon on Thursday. Amice camp in wonderful condition. It was a wonderful achievement for me darling. God bless you, Eileen

Wednesday - September 12th :- My own darling, this has been a hectic day of packing and reporting. I have been in the sun all day and so many things happened that I could not begin to tell you about it. Loaded all baggage on train; sent surplus kit and parachutes to British company stores. Then came 2 B29s and dropped 4 loads of food which we collected by means of 200 Chinese and put on the train. One load was dropped in town and I went after it with George & Selbaze in the truck. Then I visited the Chinese hospital with my two loads and oh what a sorry show that place and those poor men are in. I did what I could and dashed back to camp. Then I gave the Chinese all the old British Army great coats + all the food in our store (Rice etc). The nips were furious and begged a sample of Sacks for their staff. George, Hain, and I entertained the Chinese officers in my room and gave him my Carpet + lots of other stuff. Having supplied

the camp we set off - I leading ^{2nd} with the American & British flags flying beside me. We went to the station in small trucks; embarked and set sail at 12.10 a.m. Oh what a wonderful feeling this is now. I am really free at last. And now you are down to me the over. God bless you clear
Thursday - September 13th - My darling, I am writing this note from Yokohama to Okiwana! We arrived here by air (C46) this evening at 5 P.M. The weather was very rough, stormy, and much fog. We were in grave danger for some time but the pilot managed a perfect landing. Six of our planes turned back to Hokkaido - we included George's. This Japanese airfield at Sapporo is a terrific size. Six German dive bombers arrived with press agents and a British naval officer from a destroyer. The latter was to wait to see after all these years - so suave and polished; there was a Marine officer here too. Then came that wonderful journey - 1/2 of us in that huge plane. Men were vomiting all over the place but the trip left me unscathed! Herbie and all his boys were at Sapporo to say good bye to us as we moved off. And now I have washed, shaved, and bathed. All is set for Okiwana to-morrow morning and thence to Manila. I am sending a note to my best girl. God bless her.

Friday - September 14th - My darling, I am writing this note from Okiwana by candle light as I sit on my canvas bed in an officers' tent in a large camp for ex-P.O.s. We had a 5 1/2 hours trip from 10 a.m. till 3.30 P.M. - it was lovely. There I met my first white woman in 3 1/2 years - Lt. Mary T. Laughlin of the U.S. Army Medical Corps! She was the hostess on the plane. Her father is from both and her mother from Kenya. She was looking for bathos and found me - gave me Rosary beads, has a sister a nun. And now I am dead beat and sweating in this semi-tropical climate. But I shall love you forever & ever. God bless you, Celia.
Saturday - September 15th - My darling, I am still at Okiwana. This morning at 3 a.m. we were turfed out of bed and paraded prior to leaving the island by plane. However the quota had been reached before my turn came and I was sent back to bed with many others. I was very disappointed. I spent the day looking out for our Hakodate beds to arrive but they did not turn up. I wanted so much to see George again. We had bacon & eggs, coffee, and doughnuts, ice cream and Cola Cola etc etc. You have no idea what all this means to us P.O.s after 3 1/2 years. Darling, I am sorry at all this delay in getting home but I have absolutely no say in it at all. I only know that I love you. God bless you, Celia.
Sunday - September 16th - Darling, still in Okiwana! Got up at 3 a.m. and was soon taken off to the airfield in a dump-truck of rain. We boarded a B-24 Bomber (Consolidated); dived flutes & hose works, but the trip was



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Cancelled because a typhoon was approaching. We were soaked to the skin on the return journey to camp. Had a cold meal - no change of clothing; everything wet through. And then came the most awful experience in the tent when the typhoon struck us. Many tents were blown away! Rain penetrated everywhere! I ran off to bed and it is only 6 P.M. God bless you, Cileen.

Monday - September 17th :- Darling, I had an awful night - this tent but things are more settled now and it only rains at intervals. Crozier, Knoffat, and Salchay have moved into my tent. Lots of magazines, chocolates, Coca Cola, ice cream etc. But I want to be back home with you, Cileen. God bless you, darling.

Tuesday - September 18th :- My darling, I am still in Okinawa but I am still alive. Many P.W.s have been killed in air crashes on their way here; ships has struck mines etc. It has been lovely today - the typhoon has blown itself out. I still feel like a prisoner here. Went to a show to night - the atrocity films about German prisoners. Met Lt. Smith and Major Jordan. My Cileen you must be worried silly but I cannot send any message for here - I am always told to wait till I get to Manila. I had a visit from a 6'4" 14" private from San Antonio (Texas) - Fr. Vincente. He was wonderful, Cileen. I went to confession standing outside the tent! And now I am prepared and happy for the next stage of my journey home to you. We are nearly sure to move to night. God bless you, Cileen.

Wednesday - September 19th :- Darling, I am now in a British officers' camp near Manila. Thank God we had no accident - we heard of one plane landing in the sea. With the usual American efficiency we were whisked off from Okinawa in a B24 - four engine bomber - at 10 am. and reached Clark Field Aerodrome at 3.30 pm.

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The 10-pilot was half-Irish (Jameson) and so he allowed me to spend the trip in the cockpit with him. He fed me rather well too ^{well} all because I was Irish! We had a perfect take off, a lovely trip and a lovely landing. It's a big job with 25 men + kit on board. We had supper at Clark Field and then left by train for this camp which was reached at 2 am. The Filipinos were crawling all the station selling "ba-wo-nas Joe"!

Thursday - September 20th :- My darling, I am in this huge camp teeming with British and Australian officers. I have met dozens of people I have known in the past. Here we have cigars, gin twice daily, beer three times, chocolate, good food. I am quarters with Capt. Jibbs R. R. I met all my boys from Murren today and they gave me a great reception. I met also I met and he visited me twice today. I have just seen and heard Grace Fields in a theatre a few yards away from my tent. She sang "Danny Boy" and oh how it made me feel homesick. Darling, I sent you a cable today and am now writing an Air Mail card. God bless you, my Cileen.

Friday - September 21st :- My darling, I have had a wonderfully happy day. It began with Mass and Communion at the lovely bamboo & rattan chapel in camp. Then I had my interrogation which lasted for 5 hours. I gave the whole story. Then I got some clothing - having been soaked to the skin waiting in a queue. Then I dashed off to the Post Office and got all the Hakodate mail posted; and so the boys will all have letters tomorrow morning at 8 am. And my darling I was allowed to collect my own mail - one from you, Margaret, and Kay O'Connor. I am so happy tonight, Cileen. All I want now is to get away from here quickly and get home to you and all our dear ones. I had Capt. Adams in tonight. I met my little Cambridge mathematical genius today; he said that my fame had spread as far as his camp in South Japan! Darling, I wanted only you to know this because it would make you happy. I am to be medically examined tomorrow morning. This officers camp is pathetic - a lot of old men only interested



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in No. 1 (themselves). I have tried to interest some of them in the men of their unit who were in Mesoran, but in vain; they are not interested in their men at all and it saddens me. I have had scores of boys to see me today. Darling, I met Fr. Kennedy today and oh I was glad to see him - and he to see me again. Many people still come to me and shake my hand. I don't know why. They all want to be my friend now. I had a talk with some boys who were in England 3 weeks ago - they say it is awful and very happy to be here. Fr. Kennedy and I may go into Manila soon by car to see the Jesuits and Redemptorists there. I have seen nothing of the Philippines or the Philippines as yet. And now I must write you another letter. God bless you, Celia

Saturday - September 22nd - My darling, I am still in Manila and there is still no word of a ship coming to take us away. I sent you off a long cable this morning. Alas it has to go all the way to Melbourne before being transmitted to you, darling. I should get two months' leave on my return home - and that would be ideal for our wedding and honeymoon. I was at Mass and Communion as usual this morning and you will never know how I prayed for you. You mean so much to me; you are my life and I could never live without you. We have such a big job ahead of us, Celia; we must give our lives to others and to God. I bought some towels for you today and pajamas for myself. Many boys came to see me this evening. My medical examination is now over; I am 6ft 0 1/2 ins; 168 lbs; 36" Chest -> 41" expanded; waist 29 1/2"! The Australian nurses thought I was a caveman. I had typhoid, cholera, and smallpox inoculations. And now I have fever and am ready to say good night to you once again. I shall love you forever and ever and nothing can ever change me. We have such a wonderful future ahead of us, God bless you, Celia

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Sunday.
Monday - September 23rd :- My own darling, I am closing this letter at long last. Have you ever received a 226-page letter from anyone before? I have not written all the things I would like to - the Japanese snuffies, my own feelings about things. I have had good times and bad times, but all the time I was loving you with all my heart and soul. No man should have loved more than I have loved you, Eileen. It was your love which has kept me alive all those weary years - your love and your prayers. God has been so very good to me and to you, and we shall never be able to repay his goodness to us both. You, Eileen, have suffered more than I because you did not know what was happening to me; whereas my big worry was about the mental anguish which I was causing you. I have seen so many poor lads fall by the wayside during the past 3½ years and yet I have been spared. Alas their loved ones have not been informed of their deaths yet, and they are still writing to them.

Darling, we shall never forget what He has done for us. I shall write to you every day until we meet again. Please understand and forgive some of this long diary; at times I was too weary and pushed to write more than a couple of lines; but I had to write something and pray for you each day. I have so much to tell you that is not written down here, that it may take years in the telling.

Please God we shall be married as soon as ever possible after my return home. I intend living at Beedham - do you like the idea, Eileen? We may start a practice there + a Surgery on Old Park. I cannot make any definite plans until I get home. I do not intend staying in the Army, unless compelled to do so. We can do so much more in civilian life. Felix wrote and said that he might require assistance, but I would rather we lived at Beedham and had our own practice. If the latter is not possible and



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if you wish it we could join up with Felix. I shall be like a fish out of water for some time, but you will understand as you always do. You have been my guiding star and you always will be.

I shall let you know when I leave here; also what our port of disembarkation in England. I am told that we shall be kept in a camp there for two days before we are allowed to go to our homes. Alas I cannot buy the things I would like for you in the Far East. All the cities are a shambles and I am still not a free man. I still have to go where I am ordered.

Darling, how can I ever love you enough or thank you enough for what you have done for me while I have been away - your letters, your pads, your prayers, your love, and prayers and loyalty. Kileen dearest, our marriage will be perfect bliss - do you feel that way about it? Well we shall have everything - everything that makes for happiness, we shall have all the things that really matter in life - a love that has been truly tested and found not wanting; a faith which we are proud of; and an unworldliness which is so rare today; and a trust in God and His Blessed Mother. It has been a long, hard, cruel preparation for our marriage but it has been worth while. We have prepared with years of prayer and suffering and no two people in this world could have prepared better.

I had a quiet, peaceful, happy dream about you last night, Kileen. You were radiant with joy and smiling all the while. Never have you been so happy.

Darling, I am sorry about all this delay in getting home to you, but alas I have no say in the matter at all. I could not send a cable from Hokkaido - I did but doubt very much if it will ever reach you. I had a terrific job cleaning up the camp before we left, and I was on the trot all day long. Thank God it is all over now and I can relax a little. I still visit the lads scattered all over this camp and they do appreciate it.

I have not seen Manida yet, but they say it has been razed to the ground by the Japs. The climate is awful - seems to rain all day long and oh it is so sticky too. I have many small treasures, but they can wait till I get home. I intend cabling Pindi about my luggage and have it sent home.

And now I must say adieu until we meet again. I pray God that all these letters will reach you safely.

God bless you, Helen,

All my love,

Frank, xxxxx + etc etc.
(was not allowed to put X's when I was POW)

P.S. You know that I shall hurry home as fast as possible. My love to all at home - Father, Philip, Anne, Maureen, Margaret, Una; Saddy, Mamma, Felix and Moma, Fergus, Hugh, Mamead, Josephine, Mattie, Joe, May, Frances and Roland, Mollie, Sam and Jerry and all others - God bless them because they are wonderful people all.

Forever Yours, Frank xxxxxx
etc