

Manila, P.I.,

Thursday,

September 20th 1945

My own Darling,

I arrived here in the early hours of this morning. I came by air from Okinawa in a four-engined American bomber (B24) and had a lovely trip. I have now travelled 2000 miles by plane from Hokkaido and have enjoyed it. I am in very good health - you will be disappointed if you expect your long lost lover to be a skeleton. Our camp in Hokkaido had no bombing; we had left Muroran before it was bombed and shelled.

Darling, this is an awful note but my feelings and my thoughts are in a terrible jumble. I cannot yet realize that I am a free man - I can only realize that I have loved you more and more each day of my POW life. I could feel you near me always; you were sharing it all with me and so my life was not hard - nothing seemed hard with you beside me each day. I shall never be able to make up to you for all the worry and anxiety I have caused you, but, my darling, you shall have my all for ever and ever.

I have met dozens and dozens of officers and men. They all want to shake me by the hand and be my friend. I have met many Americans in prison and I liked them best of all. They all have my address; they all want to visit us and

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meet my new wife! Darling, I made a point of making no distinction about the colour of my friends. You will meet George Roucker, a Javanese; Knish Hair, an Indian; and Jan Chen Oon a Chinese; Jimmy Hall, an American; Paddy Mc Celligott, Irish.

I have so much to tell you, that more letters would never cope with it. I have written to you every day, so that now I have a letter of 250 pages awaiting dispatch to you. Darling, don't forget to meet me at Southampton. Please do what you can to speed up our marriage, so that we can be married as soon as possible after my return and go off on our honeymoon. Eileen, what do you think of a honeymoon in U.S.A. or the Far East; it will be sold at home. Your daddy told me of your horse riding exploits. You have done too much praying for me, and I do not deserve it. You have been so loyal to me all these years - and in return you have had my poor loyalty too and all my love. So many many of the lords and officers in the prison camp have been let down by their wives and fiancées at home. You should hear what my friends say about you, Eileen; they say that you must be one girl in a million to keep loving me so faithfully all these weary years. Thank God we realize what a wonderful love is ours and what privileges God has bestowed upon us. We can never thank Him enough but we shall have a good try.

^{Shall be}
Para at Mass and Communion every morning since I came here. This morning was the first time since last Christmas and oh how I have missed it. I must start another card immediately. Give my love to everyone at Beechwood, Spring Nells, and all.

God bless you, Eileen
All my love, Forever yours, Frank.