

NAME: Sherman

RANK: Private First Class

ORGANIZATION: 6th Marine Division

OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE: Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Sherman. This is the only letter from Sherman in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt aside from edited racial slurs and profanity for protection of younger readers. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

Sherman writes a friend who is serving in the U.S. Navy:

“July 19, 1945

Some where Overseas

2100 Marine Time

First of all, I wan't to thank you for your swell graduation card, it was real thoughtful of you. I sure wish I could have been there to graduate. I probly would have, if I hadnt been so d __ n 'Gung Ho' in my Jr. year. Im not b __ ch __ n though, because Im not sorry...

...Here's the dope on that flag and stuff you ask me about.

First the flag. To tell you the truth, I didnt get it off of a screeming J _ p running at me at high port, with fixed bayonet, I got mine out of a cave. and yes, it did have J _ p's in it.

They don't carry any special kind of a flag in to battle, but when they do, they most alway tie it around there wast, or in there helmets.

Your right about the buckle. My buddie and I shot the p __ s out of him with our B.A.R.'s. Me being the last one to reach him, all I got was his belt – all shot to h __ l, his rifle, which I had to get rid of, a little latter on, because with a B.A.R. granades, pack, and what have you, including about 180 round of ammo, it was just to d __ n heavy. I may get a rifle on my next one. But Im not sticking my neck out to get it. To may guy's get knocked off that way.

I don't remember what insignia that was I sent home.

Im not really the 'he-man' you think I am but I will admit I have changed. When I left the hospital I weighed 171, and Im 5'9”1/2 tall. I only weighed about 155 and I was about 5”8’. I hope I don't change to much, if I do, I'll feel like a stranger when I get home, and even my own mother wont know me, only Mom said, I couldn't change that much.

No, Im still a Pfc. – so far. I'd sure like to make Cpl. befor I come home and who knows, mabey

after the next one, I'll make it...

...Well mate it's almost time for taps so I'll have to close for now.

Your old Pal

Sherman

P.S. After 15 months who do you think I got a letter from. None other than Betty she found out my address and that I was wounded and then wrote me a swell letter. and its only the beginnig. Gee Im glad she wrote.”

-
- Sherman made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
 - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime period film in the public domain that covers Okinawa operations and Sherman's organization (viewer discretion advised):**
<https://archive.org/details/The6thMarineDivisiononOkinawa>
 - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Sherman's wartime organization, the 6th Marine Division (reader discretion advised):**
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6th_Marine_Division_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6th_Marine_Division_(United_States))