

**NAME:** Ernest

**RANK:** Not Available

**ORGANIZATION:** 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** Mediterranean Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Ernest. This is one of many letters from Ernest in the site curator's possession and more will be transcribed in the future.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Ernest writes his girlfriend in the United States:**

“June 3, 1945

Today I received my second letter from you inside of three days. You can rest assured that it was more than welcome as all your letters are of course.

I have a copy of General Order number X issued, at 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, before me...part of it reads as follows:

Awards of Bronze Star:

...Medical Department, XXth Mountain Infantry. For meritorious service in combat...

...This is not the citation. Those papers will come through when I receive the decoration which will probably occur at the next parade we have. As soon as I get the citation, itself, I'll send them to my mother and you can read them when you are at her home some night. The medal itself will follow in about a week...

...I hope you don't think I won't 'like you anymore' because you have, at last, started to speak up for your own rights. If it's something I like a woman to have it is spirit together with wisdom in the ways of life. My only wish concerning any change you might have gone through is that your love for me has not grown smaller...A woman living in America is very fortunate in having many, many conveniences and she cannot be expected to cloister herself from these things...

...I haven't heard from John in quite awhile. If my suspicions are correct he is probably on his way to the Pacific. He is a service troop and they are going to move pretty fast I suppose. If he goes home or straight to another theatre of war he has ninety nine chances out of a hundred of living through it. I have about a fifty fifty chance and that, believe me, is no lie.

I'm getting to be quite a baby-doctor. I've treated more babies and children for burns, broken limbs, etc in the past month and a half. I only hope I can be the physician for your children...

I love you...

Goodnight

God Bless You

Your

Ernest”

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- Ernest made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period (viewer discretion advised):**  
<https://archive.org/details/ARC-39061>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Ernest’s wartime organization, the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division (reader discretion advised):**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/10th\\_Mountain\\_Division](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/10th_Mountain_Division)