

**NAME:** Daniel

**RANK:** Captain

**ORGANIZATION:** 13<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division

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

- The following excerpts are directly from two original wartime letters written by Daniel. These are the only letters from Daniel in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpts are presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpts. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**Daniel, a Jewish American soldier, writes his wife in the United States:**

“Saturday 14 April 1945

France

I received yesterday your very tender and poignant anniversary letter – and it truly is a beautiful avowal from you, my love, and I treasure it completely – a chef d’oeuvre. It came on a sad day – for it was then we learned of the tragic news of the death of President Roosevelt – a truly magnificent man who can well take his place with the greatest of the world’s great – and yet whose grave could be marked with as simple a tombstone as each soldier on the battlefield here – for soldier he was. But I shall leave the Eulogies to those whose chore it is – the shock here was sudden and quick, but its full impact has not yet been realized...

...all my love and best regards to the family -

Love,

Daniel”

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**Daniel writes his wife again in the United States:**

“France

2 May 1945 – Wed.

Today – a really red-letter day! Received 2 letters from you – and very sweet encouraging ones, too – also another Box – which I haven’t had the heart to open yet (I’ve received so many in the last 4 days – 5 in all!! – what a commissary I have!!) – and this morning the great news that HITLER is DEAD! The vagueness of the details leaves some doubt as to whether or not it is true or how it happened or when it happened, or if it happened! But nevertheless, regardless, the value of his death has been achieved in effect, and dead or alive, the victory is soon at hand. Still it would be a vengeance fulfilled to have been able to sentence him to death and actually see it happen – What a sweet role television could play now as

it caught Hitler in the courtroom – and later walking up the stairs to the gallows. Gory – but delicious...I'm writing a long letter about my Paris trip. Will be ready soon -

Love,

Daniel”

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- Daniel 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 death of President Roosevelt as mentioned above (viewer discretion advised):**  
<https://archive.org/details/FranklinDelanoRoosevelt1945>
- **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Daniel's wartime organization, the 13<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division (reader discretion advised):**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/13th\\_Airborne\\_Division\\_\(United\\_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/13th_Airborne_Division_(United_States))