**NAME:** Thomas

RANK: Ensign

**ORGANIZATION:** U.S. Merchant Marine

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by Thomas. This is the only letter from Thomas 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. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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## Thomas writes his wife in the United States:

"May 8, 1945

My Precious Wife

Good Evening Darling. We hear the good news here today about the war being officially over in Europe. Sounds good but I wish this part of the war here were also over. There would be real cause for celebration if that were true. President Truman is suppose to speak tonight at 10:00 P. M. our time but guess I won't be able to hear him since I will be working at that time, I am wondering what the reaction is to our new President...

...I guess it will be a few more days before I hear from you. I hope then that we will be starting on our way home. I can think of nothing that would sute me better. I am overanxious to be with you Honey.

Good Night Darling, Pleasant Dreams. Millions of Kisses for you Darling.

All My Love Always

Hubby Thomas"

- Thomas made it through the Second World War and passed away in his 80s.
- For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime newsreel in the public domain that covers the above time period (viewer discretion advised): <a href="https://archive.org/details/ARC-39066">https://archive.org/details/ARC-39066</a>
- For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers Thomas' wartime organization, the U.S. Merchant Marine (reader discretion advised):
  <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\_States\_Merchant\_Marine">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\_States\_Merchant\_Marine</a>