

C O P Y

June 19, 1944

Dear Mrs. Johnson,

Your letter arrived in the midst of a history-making campaign, so that I had to put off answering it until today.

Not being a doctor I am unqualified to make any judgment as to what can or cannot be done in the treatment of the wounded. However, when Jack left the forward aid station all of us thought that he had a good chance to pull through; we could scarcely believe it true when we heard on the next day that he had gone to his rest.

The matter of giving plasma is entirely a judgment of the medical profession. Certainly no lay person is capable of deciding about so technical a matter; there are times when it would be the wrong thing to give plasma. Jack was evacuated as fast as was humanly possible, but in the midst of battle it is impossible for everything to work at clock-like speed. Everyone did his best to help him, but our aid was unavailing.

Jack was seriously wounded; and apart from the wounds there is always the matter of shock, which is sometimes, from what I gather, as serious as the wounds. Unfortunately Jack died before he reached the hospital.

Someone coming back on rotation will no doubt be able to give you a full account of all this. I trust that you will not worry overmuch about these details, for it is better to blot from the memory all the sorrow of the past, and remember only the beautiful days of your married life with Jack. But of course I know how all of us think over and over of what might have been. May God the Father help you over these difficult moments of reverie.

Yours sincerely,

2115 Kamehameha Ave  
Honolulu Apr 21/44

The Chaplain and others  
100<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Div  
APO 34, New York.

Dear Sir,

I have just received a letter from the widow of my son the late Major John A. Johnson Jr. Killed in action in Italy Jan. 25/44. Mrs Johnson wrote from 4701 Russell Ave. Mt. Rainier, Maryland. She writes that you were kind enough to acquaint her with some of the details of his last hours and that you prayed with him and tried to comfort him, but that you thought <sup>he was</sup> not conscious enough to appreciate what you were doing for him. For all of which, dear Sir, please accept my sincere thanks.

I have had to bear a double load of sorrow, because on March 7<sup>th</sup> his very dear mother passed away after a long illness. At the time we were notified by the war department of his death, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> (1 month after it happened) she was too ill to be told of it and her doctor advised that it be kept from her, so that she passed away without knowing that she had lost her fine son. Although she had a mother's intuition that some thing was wrong when we did not mention anything of him. I have been given

Copies of letters written by Capt. (Dr.) Komitani and  
Capt. Jack Mizuha and Lt. Kenneth Teruya  
written to a close friend of mine (Mr. C. R. Hemmway)  
These letters speak in the highest praise of my son  
as a soldier and friend and may I ask you, Sir,  
to kindly convey my sincere thanks to each of them  
for their kind thoughts. Also to Capt. Alex. Mackenzie  
may I also ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> my sincere appreciation for what  
<sup>and</sup> another of the boys did in recovering his body as  
I realize that it must have been accomplished  
at great risk to their own lives, under the circum-  
stances and understand them to have been.

Also please accept my thanks, Chaplain, for your  
efforts and success in succeeding in having his  
remains placed in the American Cemetery.

And if, at any time, the opportunity is offered to  
photograph his resting place and especially his Cross  
or grave marker showing his name or number I  
will be ever grateful to whoever is able to accomplish  
it and will gladly recompense in some way the  
boy who should succeed in doing it, if I could learn his name.

What a terrible thought to think that a boy lies in a  
grave 10,000 miles from his Island home, as it has occurred  
already to so many.

I very much regret Chaplain, that I do not know your  
name. Would much appreciate learning more of you  
as Jack spoke so well of you when he first met you  
when he was wounded in November. If you ever reach this  
Country do not fail to tell on us. Sincerely yours  
D. A. Johnson

Major General's Army Office was  
0-320297

No. From MAJ. J.A. Johnson  
(Sender's name)  
 To Ch. Isabel Yost (0-511005)  
100 1/2 Inf. BN.  
A.P.O. 34  
Ch PM, NY, NY  

4201 Russell Ave.  
(Receiver's address)  
Mt. Rainier, Md.  
May 20, 1944  
(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)  
 Dear Padre,  
 I didn't mean to write to you again as I know how busy you are, but I can't help myself. Recently there have been several articles in magazines and newspapers all to the effect of what wonderful care the wounded get and how once they get to an evacuation hospital they're practically saved. Jack was still alive when he was brought back - wasn't there anything that could have been done? I don't know the circumstances - of how long he was in the minefield before he was rescued or how badly hurt he was, but it's been preying on my mind for I always tho't that if ever anything happened to Jack and he was given half a chance he'd pull through. Did they give him any plasma?  
 If you will only tell me these things I think that it would help sincerely,  
 Betty Johnson

V - MAIL



MAJOR J. A. JOHNSON, killed in action, January 25, Italian Front

From the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very care writing is not outside.

No.  (CENSOR'S STAMP)

To  
 Ch. Israel Yost (0-511005)  
 100 1/2 Inf. BN.  
 A.P.O. 34  
 C/P M, NY, NY

From  
 Mrs. J.A. Johnson  
 4201 Russell Ave.  
 Mt. Prairie, Ill.  
 May 20, 1944

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