

Michael Conti, Jacob Lange, Desiree Montes, and Melissa Sanford (editors)

*"All I eat, drink, sleep, and dream about is home and you and love."*  
*Sidney Goldman's Post-War Letters from Manila (January 1946)*

*Shelfmark*

California State University, Fullerton (CSUF).

University Archives and Special Collections.

SC-2018-08.

Sidney Goldman War Letters.

Document box 3, folder 1.

January 1, 1946, to January 23, 1946, one letter undated.

Seventeen letters (numbered 1 to 17 below).

*Introduction*

The seventeen letters edited here were written in January 1946 and belong to the "Sidney Goldman War Letters" held in CSUF's University Archives and Special Collections. They were donated by Sidney Goldman's daughter, Rhoda Becker, in 2018. One letter is fully typewritten while the others are handwritten in cursive with pencil; letter 11 appears to be written in black ink with pen; letters 14 (mimeographed) and 15 feature typewritten military messages; letters 7 and 11 are accompanied by their envelopes, which are still well preserved. Letter 11 is written by one M. H. "Smokey" Rieders, who appears to be a family friend (letter 6 mentions Mrs. Rieders). All letters are written in the English language on military-issue paper (yellow and white stationary) and fairly well preserved (with the exception of letter 17 which appears to have been torn at the top of the page).

Sidney "Sid" Goldman was born April 12, 1912 in Chicago, Illinois, and was the fourth of five children of Rose Mesigal Goldman and Abraham Goldman (for this and the following biographical information, the editors are indebted to CSUF's University Archives and Special Collections). While his siblings were good students, Sid did not fare well in school. After being denied a different book to do a report on, he left in his first year of high school and began working at his father's grocery store. He met Lillian ("Lil") Weinberg, his future wife, at a picnic. Sid and Lillian dated and eventually married in 1932. Following a series of jobs, including running numbers at a gambling establishment and as a jewelry salesman, Sid opened a tire retread shop near Riverview, Illinois, with one of his uncles. After seven years of marriage, Sid and Lillian had a daughter and named her Rhoda ("Rho") Thalia in 1939. Following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Sid was told by friends that he could avoid being drafted by taking an exempt job. However, he decided against it and enlisted in 1943 in his early 30s. Lillian and Rho went to Revere, Massachusetts, to live with Lillian's mother and visited Sid when he was on leave stateside. Sid then served as an army tire repairman in Europe while his unit followed General George S. Patton. As World War II was

drawing to a close, Sid was sent on one of the last boats to the Philippines and Japan, where he opened a tire repair shop and taught locals how to use machines. While he liked his job and the country well enough, Sid was eager to return home.

Written between New Year's Day and January 23, 1946, most of the letters edited here are addressed to either Lillian or Rho. They describe the dysfunctionality of demobilization, as the United States Congress improperly implemented a point system for soldiers to return home (letters 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 17); low morale because the servicemembers' discharge from duty was delayed (letters 3 and 4); the mail system in disarray and cigarette rations running low, leading to further discontent (letters 4 and 5); soldiers rioting and forming demonstrations, and Sid managing to peacefully disperse them on one occasion (letter 6); Sid not wanting to miss Rho's birthday and having a kimono (a traditional Japanese garment) made for her (letters 6, 7, and 10); matters back home, such as Lillian's interaction with Sid's siblings, neighbors, and seriously ill father (letters 2, 7, 10, 13); Sid's interaction with the locals at his shop (letter 9); an interaction between "Smokey" and Lillian, catching up on past events (letter 11); rumors of discharge orders being cut (letter 12); Sid working toward and being granted a furlough to see his father (letters 14 and 15); a military-issued form with Sid's information (letter 16); and a partial letter announcing that he is to be sent home (letter 17). Readers should be advised that the writer uses derogatory terms/ethnic slurs.

These letters offer the individual perspective of a soldier longing to return home at the end of World War II. They also provide insight into 1940s popular culture, as Sid often makes references to movies and comedy acts that he or Lillian had attended. There is also a reference to medical technology used at the time as Sid had his body treated with violet rays (letter 2). Therefore, these letters will be of interest to anyone studying 1940s American military, social, cultural, medical, and political history.

The transcriptions below preserve the lines, spelling, and capitalization of the original letters. Any additions are enclosed by square brackets.

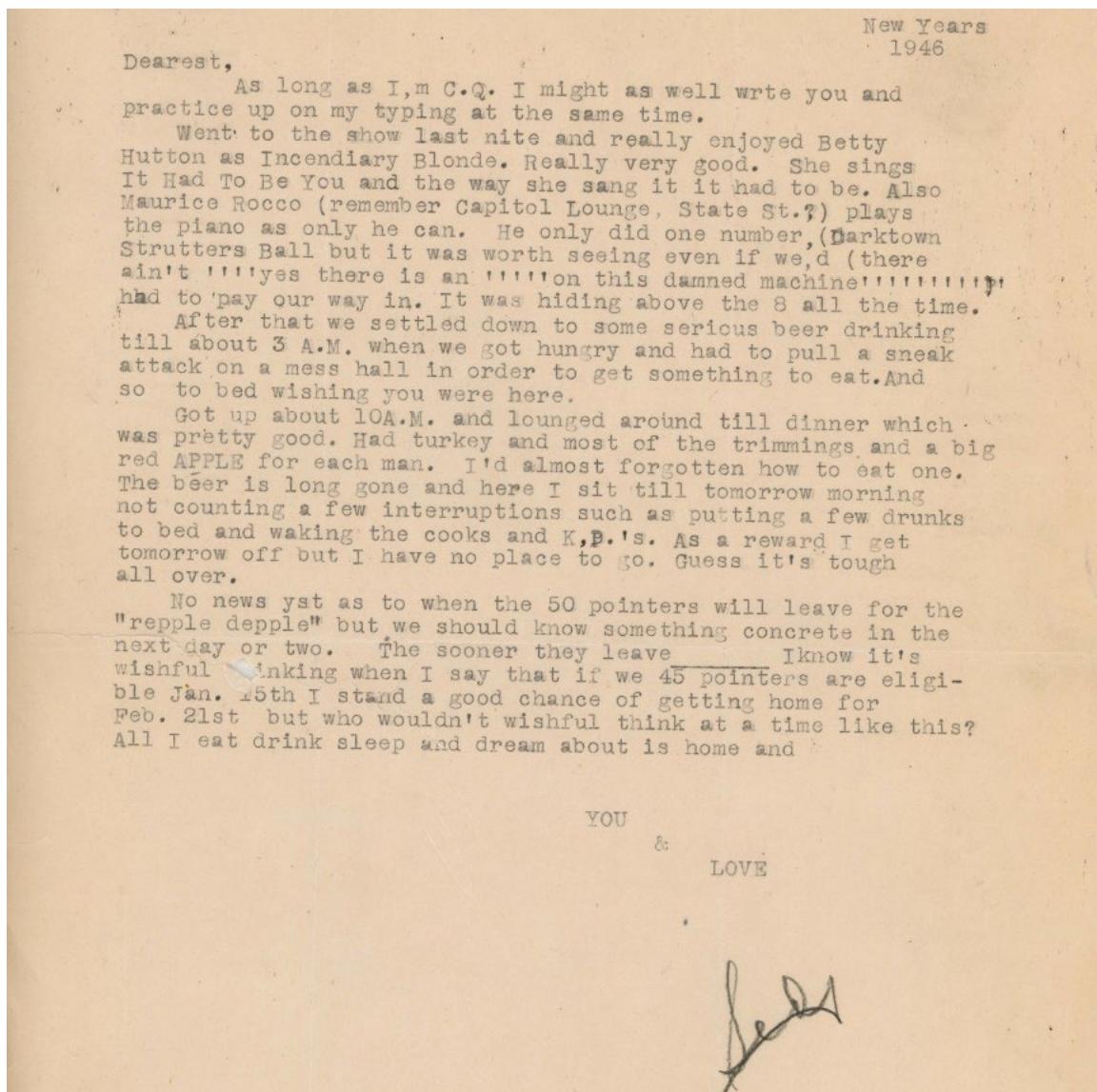


Figure 1: Letter 1, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], January 1, [1946], [Manila, Philippines].

*Edition: Letter 1, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 1, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 1 [The letter is typed; only the signature, "Sid," at the end is handwritten]:

New Years

1946

Dearest,

As long as I,m<sup>1</sup> [sic] C.Q.<sup>2</sup> I might as well wrte<sup>3</sup> [sic] you and practice up on my typing at the same time.

<sup>1</sup> Goldman did not immediately locate the apostrophe key on the typewriter he was using.

<sup>2</sup> Abbreviation for "charge of quarters;" someone on guard duty.

<sup>3</sup> Misspelling of "write."

Went to the show last nite<sup>4</sup> and really enjoyed Betty Hutton<sup>5</sup> as Incendiary Blonde.<sup>6</sup> Really very good. She sings It Had To Be You<sup>7</sup> and the way she sang it it had to be. Also Maurice Rocco<sup>8</sup> (remember Capitol Lounge, State St.?)<sup>9</sup> plays the piano as only he can. He only did one number, (Darktown Strutters Ball<sup>10</sup> but it was worth seeing even if we,d (there ain't "" yes there is an "" on this damned machine "")' hhad to pay our way in. It was hiding above the 8 all the time. After that we settled down to some serious beer drinking till about 3 A.M. when we got hungry and had to pull a sneak attack on a mess hall in order to get something to eat. And so to bed wishing you were here.

Got up about 10 A.M. and lounged around till dinner which was pretty good. Had turkey and most of the trimmings and a big red APPLE for each man. I'd almost forgotten how to eat one. The beer is long gone and here I sit till tomorrow morning not counting a few interruptions such as putting a few drunks to bed and waking the cooks and K.D.P.'s.<sup>11</sup> As a reward I get tomorrow off but I have no place to go. Guess it's tough all over.

No news yst [sic] as to when the 50 pointers<sup>12</sup> will leave for the "repple depple"<sup>13</sup> but we should know something concrete in the next day or two. The sooner they leave \_\_\_\_\_ I know it's wishful thinking when I say that if we 45 pointers are eligible Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> I stand a good chance of getting home for Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> but who wouldn't wishful think at a time like this?

All I eat drink sleep and dream about is home and

YOU

&

LOVE

Sid

<sup>4</sup> Simplified spelling of "night."

<sup>5</sup> American film, stage, and television actress (1921-2007).

<sup>6</sup> Musical film, released in 1945.

<sup>7</sup> Song by Isham Jones and Gus Kahn (1924).

<sup>8</sup> American "boogie-woogie" pianist (1915-1976).

<sup>9</sup> Cocktail bar and entertainment venue (closed 1954), 167 N. State Street, Chicago.

<sup>10</sup> Song by Shelton Brooks (1917).

<sup>11</sup> Abbreviation of "Kitchen Police" or "Kitchen Patrol;" enlisted personnel assisting the cook.

<sup>12</sup> Reference to the demobilization point system ("Adjusted Service Rating Score").

<sup>13</sup> Slang term for "replacement depot."

*Edition: Letter 2, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 2, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 2:

Wed.

Jan. 2

Dearest,

Got yours of 12/21 describing the arrival of the Nudelmans<sup>14</sup> and you always were the lucky one! I knew that if it were at all possible they'd bring chow cause they take no chances on eating. Its wonderful to have good friends & as you know by now they're real people. Wish I'd have been there but then that's nothing new. I keep wishing that every day regardless of who's there? (As long as you & Rho are there of course.) Been really catching up on my sleep today. After waking the company & having breakfast I slept till noon then chow & my daily sunbath & back to sleep again. I never had it so good. Meant to tell you bout<sup>15</sup> my sunbath—I'd been throwing a ball around & twisted my shoulder & it was paining me a bit. Went to

Page 2 of 2:

the Doc who Rx violet ray.<sup>16</sup> It baked it out in about 3 treatments & in the meantime I got friendly with the guy who runs the lamp. Soooo I get a treatment every day (10 min.) at 9:30 (one day chest, one day back etc.) & by the time I get there & back the A.M. is gone. Then chow & I buzz around the motorpool 'till about 3 P.M. at

<sup>14</sup> Unidentified individuals; friends or acquaintances of the Goldmans.

<sup>15</sup> Simplified spelling of "about."

<sup>16</sup> Therapeutic electrotherapy used in the early twentieth century.

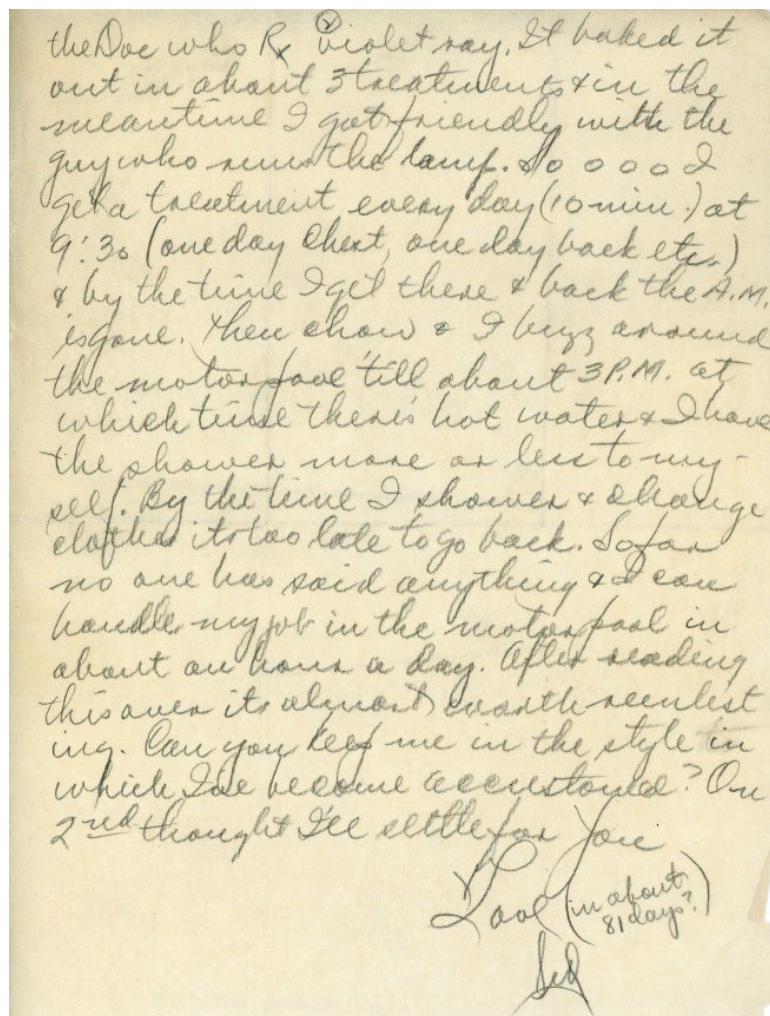


Figure 2: Letter 2, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], January 2, [1946], [Manila, Philippines] [Page 2 of 2].

which time there's hot water & I have  
 the shower more or less to my-  
 self. By the time I shower & change  
 clothes its too late to go back. So far  
 no one has said anything & I can  
 handle my job in the motorpool in  
 about an hour a day. After reading  
 this over its almost worth reenlist-  
 ing. Can you keep me in the style in  
 which I've become accustomed? On  
2<sup>nd</sup> thought I'll settle for You  
 (in about 81 days?)

Love

Sid

*Edition: Letter 3, Letter 3, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 6, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 3:

Sunday

Jan. 6

Dearest

Pardon my not writing last nite  
but I couldnt. Its 1:30 P.M. & I just got up  
after a mean drunk. Reason? We  
were told officially that our discharge  
may be delayed as long as 90 days  
on a/c<sup>17</sup> "danger of lowering the strength  
of occupying forces in hostile coun-  
tries" and lack of replacements. In  
effect we can be held till sufficient  
men arrive to replace us. Here we  
are a co.<sup>18</sup> without a mission to  
perform and no equut.<sup>19</sup> to perform with  
if we had a mission & we're stuck.  
Looks like all our dreams are again  
shot to hell and its a good thing I  
have a strong constitution and can  
take it. I know how all of you back  
home feel but all I can say or do to  
alleviate conditions is to tell you  
that someday in every way I know  
how, I'll make up to you for all the  
distress these brass hat bastards have

Page 2 of 3:

caused you. To add insult to injury  
we read the enclosed in todays S&S.<sup>20</sup> You  
write senators and think they can  
help you! Here's the No. 2 war bass<sup>21</sup> [sic] and  
he "didn't know that the point count  
was stopped Sept. 2!! I'll bet he never

<sup>17</sup> Abbreviation for "on account of."

<sup>18</sup> Abbreviation for "company;" a military unit consisting of 80-250 soldiers.

<sup>19</sup> Short for "equipment."

<sup>20</sup> Abbreviation for "Stars and Stripes Newspaper;" U.S. military newspaper since 1861.

<sup>21</sup> Misspelling of "brass."

had to sweat out points. And we're supposed to have faith in our commanders! How in hell can we have? I wonder if he knows yet that MacArthur<sup>22</sup> has 5 stars? ~~He certainly is no~~ wonder On the date of Japan's surrender? Or did they? I'll bet he knows to the penny how much pay he draws a year. I find myself wondering if Gen. Patton<sup>23</sup> didn't throw in his chips & give up his fight to live. Imagine if you can men like he & Eisenhower<sup>24</sup> taking orders from a guy who and I quote "was completely surprised" when told discharge points have not been accumulating since Sept. 2. To add insult to injury our cigarette

Page 3 of 3:

ration is snafued<sup>25</sup> somewhere and we won't draw any till further notice which may be according to rumor about the 15<sup>th</sup>. Wonder if the Sec. of War<sup>26</sup> knows we'll have to buy smokes from the Japs<sup>27</sup> if that's true? To top it all off he's here as you know and is sposed<sup>28</sup> [sic] to be at this base tomorrow. We have a 6 ft. honor guard all decked out with white helmets to greet him. Only bright spot is your letter containing the article on baldness and/or virility & the boys got a big bang out of it. Trouble is your letter says 86 days & ordinarily the count now would be 76 but now —

<sup>22</sup> Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964); U.S. Army General.

<sup>23</sup> George S. Patton (1885-1945); U.S. Army General.

<sup>24</sup> Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969); General and 34th President of the United States.

<sup>25</sup> Past tense of "snafu," slang term for throwing something into chaos.

<sup>26</sup> Robert P. Patterson (1891-1952); Secretary of War, in office Sept. 1945 to July 1947.

<sup>27</sup> Derogatory term/ethnic slur for "Japanese."

<sup>28</sup> Alternative spelling of "supposed."

who knows? Maybe we took too  
much for granted. We should have  
known better. We'll make it all up  
someday.

With  
Love  
Sid

*Edition: Letter 4, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 7, [1946], Manila, Philippines*

Page 1 of 3:

Mon. nite

Jan. 7

Dearest,

To top every thing this mail situation  
is really rough. Thats about all the mo-  
rale we have left & the service is lousy.  
No mail again today.

Been listening to the radio for develope-  
ments [*sic*]<sup>29</sup> from Manila. You probably  
heard about the riots, parades, etc.

It was pretty rough & I wish I'd  
have been there. I was out all aft-  
ernoon trying to get a protest parade  
here but got no cooperation. Would  
have been perfect cause our Sec. of  
War is due here tomorrow. No doubt  
he would have again been "com-  
pletely surprised." Too many rookies  
here scared of their stripes to start  
anything. Most of us are plenty des-  
perate [*sic*].<sup>30</sup> Don't worry. I won't get into  
anything I can't get out of & you  
know it.

Working on 2 jobs now. We are  
very short of inner tubes so have

Page 2 of 3:

set up a crude repair shop. They tried  
to get me out of the motor pool &

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<sup>29</sup> Obsolete spelling of "developments."

<sup>30</sup> Misspelling of "desperate."

the motor pool wouldn't release  
 me so we made a deal. I work  
 both places. Important guy me! I  
 rigged up a crude (but very) hot  
 plate & today I was instructing Japs  
 in the art of tube repair along pro-  
 duction lines. Quite a job. I like  
 it tho [sic].<sup>31</sup>  
 Only bad news is that our  
 mascot<sup>32</sup> was hurt. He got his leg  
 caught in a revolving door (he  
 was sober) and it hurt like hell.  
 We took him to the Doc who really  
 checked him over. Says he doesn't  
 think its broken but called the hos-  
 pital to find out if they can x-ray  
 it & make sure. So "Skinny Boy" (that's  
 the pup's name) has an appt.<sup>33</sup> at the  
 161<sup>st</sup> Sta. Hosp.<sup>34</sup> tomorrow at 11 A.M.  
 Some class!! Poor guy has been  
 whining all evening & he has about

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50 nurses tending him. He seems to  
 like it. Sounds screwy but we need  
 something or someone to love &  
 lots of us prefer a dog to the Japs.  
 The radio keeps banging away  
 at Patterson. Latest is that a bunch  
 of G.I's<sup>35</sup> booed a 3 star Gen.<sup>36</sup> who  
 asked em<sup>37</sup> [sic] to break up a demonstra-  
 tion. Bet Patterson will be "completely  
 surprised" at that! AP<sup>38</sup> had a  
 star reporter making the rounds in

<sup>31</sup> Simplified spelling of "though."

<sup>32</sup> The company dog.

<sup>33</sup> Short for "appointment."

<sup>34</sup> Short for "Station Hospital."

<sup>35</sup> Abbreviation for "General Issue" or "Ground Infantry;" refers to common soldiers.

<sup>36</sup> Short for "General."

<sup>37</sup> Short for "them."

<sup>38</sup> Abbreviation of "Associated Press;" American non-profit news agency founded in 1846.

Manila & he says "G.I. morale in the Pacific is lower now than at any time since Pearl Harbor. "And he ain't<sup>39</sup> kidding.

So—Patterson, MacArthur & God willing—I'll see you in my dreams cause it seems like you're farther away now than you ever were.

Love,  
Sid

*Edition: Letter 5, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], January 9, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 2:

Wed.

Jan. 9

Dearest,

No mail again today & as usual that's a bad day. However there are always bright spots. Tomorrow nite there is a mass protest meeting & we'll see if we can get something done. The 53 pointers are leaving tomorrow and 8<sup>th</sup> Army<sup>40</sup> promises all 50+ men will be on the way home by Jan. 31. No news as yet on any further cut in points. They added that the above schedule will be met or beaten if shipping is not diverted. It's up to us tomorrow nite to see that shipping is not diverted. One more thing and I'm writing the same to Shir & Min<sup>41</sup>—How bout doing a little recruiting among your friends & neighbors? S&S says that one of the reasons we are not getting replacements is 'cause they need the low point men in the States as stenos<sup>42</sup> cooks & bakers etc. and they can't get

<sup>39</sup> Informal contraction for "are not."

<sup>40</sup> U.S. field army; first activated in 1944.

<sup>41</sup> Shirley and Minnie: two of Sid's sisters.

<sup>42</sup> Short for "stenographers;" people who generate verbatim records using a steno machine.

civilian labor to do it. Consequently these low pointers must work in replacement centers.—Now—if some of our wives would vol-

Page 2 of 2:

unteer to work say 4 hrs. a day (gratis if Uncle<sup>43</sup> can't afford to pay) maybe they could send those guys over & us home.

Write your senator and/or congress-man?

Otherwise—we listen to the radio all day & the news is all about parades, meetings & now of all things—a hunger strike. I know lot of it sounds screwy & desparate [sic] but we are.

Hope you're the same.

Love

Sid

*Edition: Letter 6, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman] and Rho[da Goldman], January 10, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 6:

Jan. 10

Thurs.

Dearest,

Finally blowed my top tonite and you'll no doubt read about me in the papers but don't worry. As I've said often said—I'll get into nothing I can't get out of.

Heres the story: you've read about the meetings etc.—O.K. there was a meeting scheduled tonite at 5:30 P.M. in front of 8<sup>th</sup> Army H.Q.<sup>44</sup> and we were told permission was granted by Comm. Gen.<sup>45</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Army When we got there about 1000 guys & about 200

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<sup>43</sup> "Uncle Sam;" a term used to "personify" the U.S. government.

<sup>44</sup> Abbreviation for "headquarters."

<sup>45</sup> Short for "Commanding General;" at that time, Robert L. Eichelberger.

M.P.'s<sup>46</sup> were milling around. Someone had a few mimeographed<sup>47</sup> forms with statements by W.D.,<sup>48</sup> Mac.,<sup>49</sup> Patter- son etc. There were only a few & the crowd wanted em read so all could hear. It'd be superfluous to tell you who climbed on a jeep & star- ted to read 'em. I was interrupted by an M.P. Major who ordered me to stop & I did. He and a Col. Caldwell<sup>50</sup> who is Provost Marshall<sup>51</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Army

Page 2 of 6:

told me in a very nice way that 2 G.I's had permission to hold a meeting & that they had gone. That anyone else speak- ing was unauthorized. Meanwhile the crowd was waiting & getting im- patient. I asked the Col. if I might tell this to the crowd so they would disperse & he thanked me for the sug- gestion & told me to go ahead which I did. I explained to the crowd and told 'em that anyone who wished to hold a meeting could ask permission of the Comm. Gen. 8<sup>th</sup> Army & do it in an orderly manner. I also added that I wouldn't want and am cer- tain that the boys wouldn't want any disorder that would reflect on us as we had enuf<sup>52</sup> [sic] troubles now & suggested that instead we go home & write a letter & to leave in an or- derly fashion—now. In 3 min- utes the crowd was gone & the Col.

<sup>46</sup> Abbreviation for "Military Police."

<sup>47</sup> Method of document duplication.

<sup>48</sup> Abbreviation for "War Department."

<sup>49</sup> Alternative abbreviation for "MacArthur."

<sup>50</sup> Colonel Carol V. Caldwell, Provost Marshal 8<sup>th</sup> Army.

<sup>51</sup> The head of Military Police in camp or on active service.

<sup>52</sup> Simplified spelling of "enough."

congratulated me on a job well done. The reason I was so P.O'd<sup>53</sup>

told me in a very nice way that 2 G.I.'s had permission to hold a meeting & that they had gone. That anyone else speaking was unauthorized. Meanwhile the crowd was waiting & getting impatient. I asked the Col. if I might tell this to the crowd so they would disperse & he thanked me for the suggestion & told me to go ahead which I did. I explained to the crowd and told them that anyone who wished to hold a meeting could ask permission of the Commr Gen. 8<sup>th</sup> Army & do it in an orderly manner. I also added that I wouldn't want and am certain that the boys wouldn't want any disorders that would reflect on us as we had many troubles now & suggested that instead we go home & write a letter & to leave in an orderly fashion - now. In 3 minutes the crowd was gone & the Col. congratulated me on a job well done. The reason I was so P.O'd.

Figure 3: Letter 6, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman] and Rho[da Goldman], January 10, [1946], [Manila, Philippines] [Page 2 of 6].

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was that our Col. held a meeting today of the officers & top 3 graders at which he said many things among which that he thought these meetings were silly and attended by nincompoops<sup>54</sup> etc., and added that "any noncom<sup>55</sup> who doesn't think the way

<sup>53</sup> Abbreviation for "pissed off;" very angry or annoyed.

<sup>54</sup> Derogatory term for a gullible person.

<sup>55</sup> "Noncom" or NCO: noncommissioned officer in the U.S. military.

I do can turn in his stripes an[d] that any officer could see him and he'd see that they were removed." After the meeting I immediately went to my Capt. & offered to turn in my stripes & he wouldn't take 'em. Said among other things that he wanted me as a noncom in his outfit because of my ability. I've been damned mad and things will no doubt come to a head in a day or two. There were some correspondents there tonite who asked my name etc. and I gave it to 'em. Also to the Provost Marshall. Also my address both civilian and army. When our Col. gets the report he'll blow sky high and that's just what I want.

Page 4 of 6:

Again—let me caution you not to worry. I'll keep you informed of any events as they happen if I have to write twice an hour.

On the brighter side—got 2 3 letters from you today and it looks like you got almost no mail from Xmas<sup>56</sup> to New Years. You've probably caught up by now. You seem to have been plenty blue New Years Eve but so was I. The enclosed group snap will show you how we spent the Eve. The other was Xmas day & you can draw your own conclusions. Also on the bright side—the 53 pointers leave here tomorrow.

Didn't know the Krafts<sup>57</sup> were at it again & all I can say is I'm sorry. You never did tell me what was

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<sup>56</sup> Alternative spelling of "Christmas."

<sup>57</sup> Unidentified individuals.

with Rene.<sup>58</sup> Was she ill or what the hell?

Haven't heard from Irv<sup>59</sup> they left for Opelousas.<sup>60</sup> They too probably got caught in the storms.

Rho's letter made me angrier

Page 5 of 6:

if that's possible. I don't want to disappoint her by not being home for her birthday if I have to fight the whole Army!

Nice letter from Mrs. Rieders<sup>61</sup> who reiterates her invite. Asked her if she wanted any souveniers<sup>62</sup> [sic] from Japan & she answered "the souvenier [sic] I want most is for you and your wife to visit us after you have the little pin with the bird in your lapel." Nice.

So-o I'll shower & shave so I'll be all cleaned up for any developements [sic].

Maybe they'll get real mad & send me right home right away?

With

Love

Sid

Page 6 of 6:

Thurs.

Jan. 10

Dearest Rho,

Thanx<sup>63</sup> [sic] for the letter & I hope you enjoyed Iris and Alan<sup>64</sup> as I know you did.

<sup>58</sup> Unidentified individual.

<sup>59</sup> Irving: Sid's brother.

<sup>60</sup> City in Landry Parish, Louisiana.

<sup>61</sup> See letter 11, written by M. H. "Smokey" Rieders.

<sup>62</sup> Misspelling of "souvenirs."

<sup>63</sup> Alternative spelling of "thanks."

<sup>64</sup> Unidentified individuals; Iris is also mentioned in letter 13.

I'm going to bring your kimono<sup>65</sup>  
 home with me as it might get damaged  
 in the mail. You can wait a  
 bit longer can't you? I'll give you a  
 small hint tho. Its red. I'm trying  
 to get you a doll too. Who knows?  
 It seems like the powers that be  
 are trying to keep us from getting home  
 soon but I'm still hoping. I promise  
 that I'll do all I can to get there in  
 time or before.  
 S'pose<sup>66</sup> [sic] you've been having lots of fun in  
 the snow. We haven't had any yet  
 but its getting colder every day.  
 See you soon  
 with Love  
 & many xxxxxx<sup>67</sup>  
 Dad

*Edition: Letter 7, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
 January 11, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 5:

Fri.  
 Jan. 11  
 Dearest,  
 Best news today was 3 letters  
 from you with news that my mail  
 had finally caught up. Also a letter from  
 Fritz<sup>68</sup> plus a copy of the one she sent  
 you. You didn't write me about Rho  
 at the wedding as you wrote Fritz  
 Wassamatter?<sup>69</sup> Fraid I'd get the  
 swelled head? I did.

<sup>65</sup> Traditional Japanese garment.

<sup>66</sup> Alternatative spelling of "suppose."

<sup>67</sup> Denoting "kisses."

<sup>68</sup> Frieda: Sid's sister. "Fritz(i)" can be a female nickname for Fri(e)da and Fri(e)derike.

<sup>69</sup> Alternative spelling of "What's the matter?"

Saw "Love Letters"<sup>70</sup> last nite. Jennifer Jones<sup>71</sup> in an altogether different kind of picture and good too.

O.K. I know you're sweating out my last nites escapades—I looked for the Old Man this A.M. to tell him what happened so that if he was called on the carpet he'd know the scene. I couldn't find him till 10 o'clock & started to tell him. He already knew all about it. Seems like the report came in and there was a meeting at 9 A.M. The Bn.<sup>72</sup> Comm (a Col.)—plus his next in command Lt. Col., Major, Adjutant (Capt.) and

Page 2 of 5:

our Old Man. The subject of discussion — Me. Seems like someone wanted to rap me but was overruled. So much for that. At noon I was eating & the Mess Sgt. called me to the phone and I quote—Sgt. Goldman speaking—VOICE This is Lt. Gen. Byers<sup>73</sup> aide speaking—(The pause is me gulping) What can I do for you Sir? VOICE we understand that you're the noncom who broke up the demonstration last nite. Yes sir I am. The Gen. (3 star no less) would like to speak with you. Can you be at his office (& he gave me directions) at 9 A.M. tomorrow? Yes sir. VOICE THANK YOU SGT. GOODBYE & I gulped again end quote.

Now get this. I was not ordered to report. The Old Man says I'm a cinch for a letter of commendation.

<sup>70</sup> American film noir (1945).

<sup>71</sup> American actress (1919-2009).

<sup>72</sup> Short for "Battalion."

<sup>73</sup> Clovis Ethelbert Byers (1899-1973); Lieutenant General U.S. Army.

Me? I'm the least bit nervous.  
I'll write the details of course.

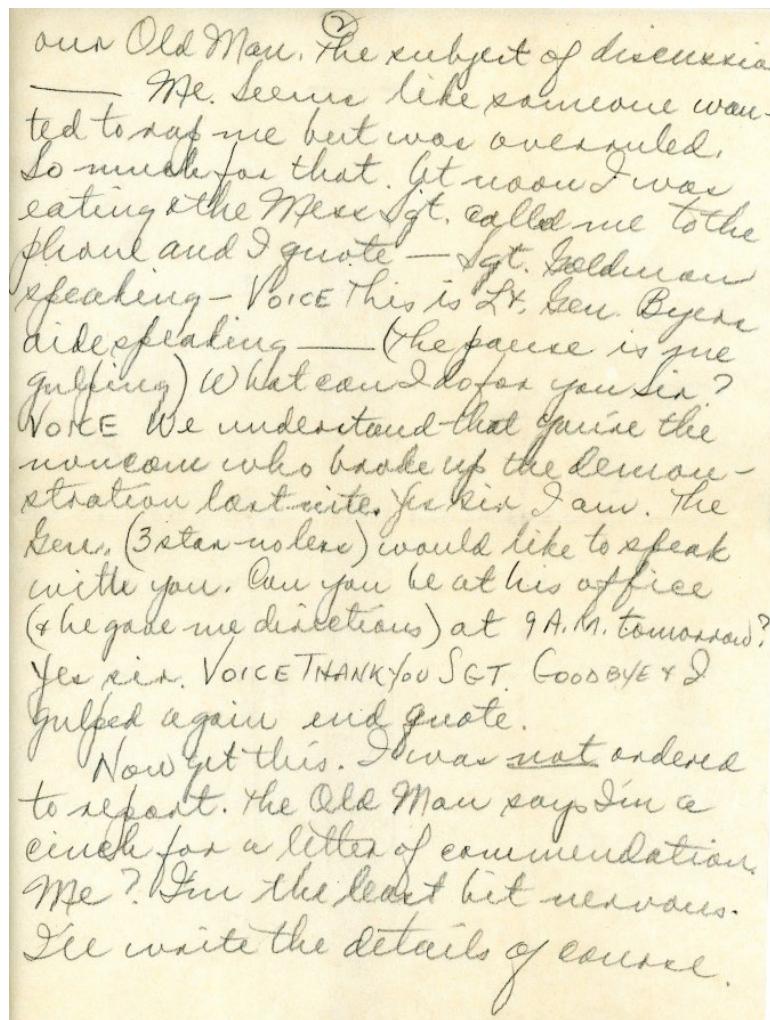


Figure 4: Letter 7, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], January 11, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]  
[Page 2 of 5].

Page 3 of 5:

Also important is the fact that the orders on the 52 pointers were cut today and "our boy" says his boss told him that he was told to keep going down the line i.e. 49 48 47 etc. He says I have a good chance again of leaving here by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Now for your letter — I know you're burning, sweating it out but keep your morale up. It can't be long now. At the moment my morale is

good. I wonder what I'll feel tomorrow at this time?

Now I am hot at Meyer.<sup>74</sup> I don't mind what he says about his own immediate family but I'll take no remarks about my wife from him or anyone else regardless of circumstances. I'll kick his goddam teeth in & I mean it. I'm surprised that you didn't. You must be tamed down from the wildcat I knew!

Forget about the 120 film. I've about 5 dollars & that'll last for a

Page 4 of 5:

while. I too am glad you didn't know about that Jap holiday for the Emperor tho nothing happened.

That wasn't such a wonderful thing to do for the guys at the repple depple. We've lived together for over a year and a half and they weren't getting enuf [*sic*] to eat & no beer. Its only 20 mi.<sup>75</sup> and we have transportation.

We'd be pretty lousy if we didn't go out. Going again Sunday. All of the cooks will make pizza Sat nite.

Knew you'd be glad about the kimonos for the Mothers and as to Beth Ellen<sup>76</sup>—she's kind of nice—writes to me too which is more than some of my other nieces do. Did I tell you I am to get a real McCoy<sup>77</sup> doll for Rho? Don't tell her cause I haven't got it yet. A Jap is making one complete with silk kimono.

<sup>74</sup> Unidentified individual.

<sup>75</sup> Abbreviation for "miles."

<sup>76</sup> Unidentified individual; based on what follows, probably one of Sid's nieces.

<sup>77</sup> A/the "real McCoy" is an idiom meaning "the real thing" or "a genuine piece."

It'll probably cost a lung & he does-  
n't play klabbieash!<sup>78</sup>

Page 5 of 5:

Hope Sal Adelstein<sup>79</sup> gets his break. I liked him. He sure was "beaucoup de madam-oiselle" in "Baby" Rose Marie.<sup>80</sup> Guess that after 2 1/2 yrs. C.B.I.<sup>81</sup> he can handle it—for a while anyway.

Don't worry bout what to wear when you meet me. The less said about the less you wear—am I mixed up! Anyway.—I want some steak & fried potatoes & some lettuce and tomatoes and some STUFF LIKE THAT THERE! Guess I'll have to wait till you shop for steak etc.

This place is like a madhouse! One guy is cleaning my boots, another pressing my pants another cleaning his ribbons for me to wear & the barber gave me priority. The Old Man came up said "I know you can take care of yourself in the clinches" "Good luck". Swell bunch of guys— & you too  
Love Sid

Envelope: [handwritten, in black ink, on tab:] This was already opened [postmark:] U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE 1946 Jan 12 7-APO<sup>82</sup> [sender, handwritten, in pencil:] T/3<sup>83</sup> SID GOLDMAN 36783791 / 166<sup>th</sup> ORD. TIRE REP. Co<sup>84</sup> / APO 503 SAN FRISCO<sup>85</sup> [postage stamp, featuring an airplane, orange, printed:] U.S. POSTAGE

<sup>78</sup> A fast-moving card game for two players also known as klabberjass.

<sup>79</sup> Unidentified individual; based on what follows, probably an actor.

<sup>80</sup> Possible reference to the 1929 silent short "Baby Rose Marie the Child Wonder," starring Rose Marie, an American actress and comedienne (1923-2017).

<sup>81</sup> Abbreviation for "China Burma India Theater" (World War II).

<sup>82</sup> Abbreviation for "Army Post Office."

<sup>83</sup> Abbreviation for "Technician Third Grade;" rank of the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1948.

<sup>84</sup> Short for "Ordnance Tire Repair Company."

<sup>85</sup> Short for "San Francisco."

VIA AIRMAIL 6 ¢ [addressee, handwritten, in pencil:] Mrs. S. Goldman / 1636 No.  
Shore Road<sup>86</sup> / Revere, 51 / Mass.

*Edition: Letter 8, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 14, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 2:

Monday

Jan. 14

Dearest,

Mail service is picking up. Got 3  
from you today. 4-5-6 so I'll probably  
draw a blank tomorrow but every day  
can't be a holiday.

We're still in the dark. Don't know  
what the score is & probably won't know  
till Eisenhower speaks to Congress. There's  
a rumor circulating that he may recom-  
mend discard of the point system &  
discharge by the length of service. So far  
8<sup>th</sup> Army is cutting points. They cut or-  
ders today on the Col. of the 51's and  
most of the 50's. Start on 49's Wed.  
& so far as they know they'll go right  
down the line. I could be in rep  
dep<sup>87</sup> in about 10 days or less if our  
luck holds out. I'm sweatin.

Drove to rep dep today & brought the  
boys some beer & cake. They gave us  
butts<sup>88</sup> in exchange. Bringing pizza  
out to 'em tomorrow nite for a  
real sendoff.

Page 2 of 2:

Irv wrote that he's going after Penny  
so I'm leaving it to him. OPA<sup>89</sup> fined  
him \$200 which isn't bad but they  
got an injunction prohibiting him  
from repairing or capping tires

<sup>86</sup> As of this edition (2022), the residential structure at this address (built in 1900) still stands.

<sup>87</sup> Short for "repple depple;" replacement depot.

<sup>88</sup> Unused parts of cigarettes or cigars.

<sup>89</sup> U.S. Office of Price Administration (OPA) tasked with price controls and civilian rationing from 1941 to 1947.

not conforming to OPA specifications  
 and you try & find em. As Irv says  
 "It looks like a long cold winter" &  
 he's surprisingly calm.  
 Thanx much for writing the folks.  
 It means a lot to me as you can  
 understand so please keep it up?  
 We're sposed to get 30 replacements  
 in tonite fresh from the States & they  
 are 4 hrs. late so far. They're going to  
 feed em when they come in so I think  
 I'll wait up & have coffee. In the  
 meantime I'll sit & think of you &  
 Love  
 Sid

*Edition: Letter 9, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
 January 15, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 2:

Tues.  
 Jan. 15  
 Dearest,  
 I knew it. Got 3 letters yesterday  
 so today there were 4 letters for the whole  
 co. Can't have cream always I guess.  
 Sent in a list today "for planning  
 purposes only" of all men with 45/or  
 more points or those with 30 mos.'  
 service. Seems like they're starting to  
 put emphasis on service & I don't  
 like. Every time I get near the top of  
 a list they do something to set me back.  
 Some day I'll beat 'em.  
 Got word today on our barge. Its  
 in dry dock at Okinawa<sup>90</sup> for repairs  
 & they don't know if & when it will  
 get here. I've got the tube repair shop  
 just about set up now so I don't mind.  
 Got 10 Japs that I taught how to use  
 cold patches turning out 100 tubes a

---

<sup>90</sup> Japanese island prefecture, located northeast of Taiwan and southwest of Kyushu; following World War II, it remained under U.S. American administration until 1972.

day and in the meantime I've got a  
welder making tube plates & a plumber  
setting up a boiler. When its come-  
plete I'll have a line like on Western

Page 2 of 2:

Ave.<sup>91</sup> only this will be solely tubes. I  
had 'em dig a 6 ft. pit for this boiler so  
we won't have water in the molds. Re-  
member? Getting quite a kick out of it.  
Meeting tonite – top 3 graders – and  
if that so & so Col. sounds off again I'll  
blow my top right in his face! After  
that Abbot & Costello in Hollywood<sup>92</sup>  
& so to bed.

Got 30 some odd replacements last  
nite from the 81<sup>st</sup> (Black Panther Div.)<sup>93</sup> now  
inactivated. Mostly rebels.<sup>94</sup> Need I  
say more?

Still waiting for news of Rho's doll  
but haven't heard yet. It's a long  
ride out.

News is on & everyone is sweatin  
out Gen. Ike's<sup>95</sup> speech to Congress, Hope  
& pray it helps me – & you

Love

Sid

*Edition: Letter 10, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman] and Rhoda [Goldman],  
January 16, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 4:

Wed.

Jan. 16

Dearest,

So Gen. Ike finally sounded  
off & we knew what he was going to  
say. Went out to the rep dep today &

<sup>91</sup> Western Ave. is Chicago's longest street (27.38 miles).

<sup>92</sup> American comedy film released in 1945, starring comedians Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

<sup>93</sup> The 81<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division was actually known as the "Wildcats." "Black Panthers" was the nickname of the 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

<sup>94</sup> Many servicemembers of the 81<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division hailed from the southeastern states.

<sup>95</sup> Commonly used nickname for General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

the 50 pointers are just about cleaned out. They expected to cut orders on 48-49 pointers today but didn't. Our boy says they'll also cut 30 mo. men but that points have priority. I now really think I'll leave here by the end of the month but don't stop writing till I tell you to.

Sorry to hear that Joe & Lil<sup>96</sup> need adjusting. Kind of scares me but I don't see how we can have those troubles. I think most of the trouble is that the man expects his wife to think he's changed and he tries too hard. Me—just the steak & fried potatoes and the lettuce and tomatoes and SOME STUFF LIKE THAT THERE! & if

Page 2 of 4:

after the steak & stuff I'm not adjusted—Shoot me!

Some disturbing mail today. Letter from Leo Young.<sup>97</sup> Willie<sup>98</sup> is still in England, it was Leo's wife Ruth who had (& has) the ticker<sup>99</sup> trouble & one of the boys I went thru Atlanta with had his chest caved in on Okinawa.

Sounds like our daughter is practicing up on being a model child. Who's she conning & what's her angle. I can't believe its spontaneous.

Saw part of Abbott & Costello "In Hollywood." Walked out & so would you.

Been dreaming of you lately again. Seems to run in streaks & its nice but—

---

<sup>96</sup> Unidentified individual; husband to Ruth Young, mentioned below.

<sup>97</sup> Unidentified individual; perhaps Leo and Ruth Young's son.

<sup>98</sup> Unidentified individual; Leo Young's wife.

<sup>99</sup> Colloquial term denoting the (beating) heart.

Love  
Sid

Page 3 of 4:

Jan. 16

Dearest Rhoda,

Do you mind if I answer

2 of your letters (and a postcard) all at once? You see—you write only to me and I have so many people to write to.

I'm happy that you've been helping Mother with the housework and she tells me that you have been doing very well. Keep up the good work. She also says you are doing quite well in school and I'm glad.

I'm sure now that I'll be home for your birthday and am hoping to get home for Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> because on that day your mother and I will have been married for 14 years. I doubt very much that I'll be there in time but I like to dream. Do you ever dream while you sleep. Lately I've been

Page 4 of 4:

dreaming of you & Mom almost every nite—and I like it.

Did I tell you I'm bringing your kimono home with me so that I can give it to you myself? Thought you'd like it better that way than if the mailman brought it.

Not much other news. The Japs still look the same as they did and I don't like 'em but

I

LOVE

YOU<sup>100</sup>

---

<sup>100</sup> "I LOVE YOU" is "spelled" in x-s (representing kisses).

Dad

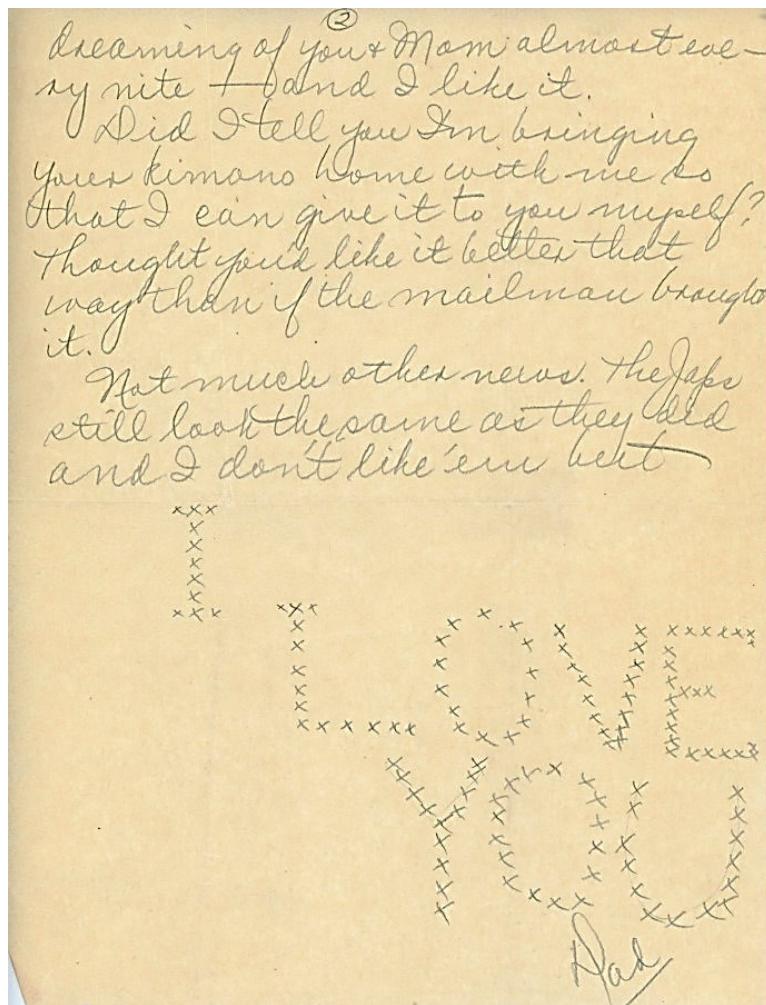


Figure 5: Letter 10, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman] and Rhoda [Goldman], January 16, [1946], [Manila, Philippines] [Page 4 of 4].

*Edition: Letter 11, M. H. "Smokey" [Rieders?] to [Lillian Goldman], January 17, [1946], Manila, Philippines*

Envelope [front]: [postmark:] U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE 1946 Jan 17 7-BP  
 [sender, handwritten, in blue ink:] T/5<sup>101</sup> M. H. Rieders 32697327 / 232 Ord. Tire  
 Rep. / A.P.O. 75 c/o pm / San Fran<sup>102</sup> / [postage stamp, featuring an airplane,  
 orange, printed:] U.S. POSTAGE VIA AIRMAIL 6 ¢ [addressee, handwritten, in blue  
 ink:] Mrs. S. Goldman / 1636 No. Shore Road / Revere, 51, Mass.

Envelope [back]: [handwritten, likely by Sid Goldman, in pencil:] Everybody fine  
 here, and I'll write / tomorrow. / Love / Mom, / Bernie & Estelle<sup>103</sup>

<sup>101</sup> Abbreviation for "Technician Fifth Grade;" rank of the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1948.

<sup>102</sup> Short for "San Francisco."

<sup>103</sup> Unidentified individuals; also mentioned in letter 15.

Page 1 of 4:

Jan. 17, 46

Manila

Dearest Lil

I was really waiting for melon-head<sup>104</sup> to actually leave before I wrote but it's imminent now just a matter of a day or two. Start the presses, roll the cameras, pull the switches, fire the starting gun—sure as all hell I'm behind you 1000%.

As for Ike's plan for demobilization, it's fairly hard to get a perfect picture of it. Those of us in the 45, 46, 47 bracket don't know how soon before Apr. 30, we'll be on our way. As we see it, if there are boats in the harbor, they could readily start now, they don't dare to wait till Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>. In any event, Sid and I will be home, the latest, March. I'll now contradict myself and say that demob[ilization] has been slower in Japan—but at first, it surpassed all the Philip-

Page 2 of 4:

pines.

Again in regard to balloon-head,<sup>105</sup> I think Sid, and, I know, myself, plan some concrete action against him so he'll never forget us. I think that together, we can do a fairly good job. I miss that wretched husband of yours. I've lost all my sharpness, walk around like a "mope" since he's gone. I wish his business was in N.Y.,<sup>106</sup> Chi[cago] is too far to go to see him as often as I'd like to.

---

<sup>104</sup> Perhaps a nickname for Sid.

<sup>105</sup> Perhaps another nickname for Sid.

<sup>106</sup> Abbreviation of "New York."

And you and Rho, feeling great, I hope? You're probably putting in a cold winter — and right now, perspiration is on my brow — not from work I assure you. I haven't gone to work in two weeks. The final outcome of my swollen toe was a bad ingrown toe-nail which had bothered me continually since Oct[ober]. Two weeks ago, at a hospital (248 Genl.). I had the ingrown

Page 3 of 4:

part removed, talked the MD<sup>107</sup> into letting me out of the hospital and am still on quarters, the equivalent to sick leave, I just lie around. However, it can't last, it's healing slowly but perfectly so soon I must again face the barge — horrors.

Our company will move our area, to the other side of Manila, — who cares, just the bother of moving.

Lil dear, that T/5<sup>108</sup> was more of a surprise to me than to you but Sid showing off a T/3<sup>109</sup> was no surprise he should have had that long, long ago. But typing is no miracle, anybody can hunt and peck, what you didn't know is how long it took me to type it!!!!

I still hear from Regine,<sup>110</sup> seems as if she is married in name only. She asks me to write "en Francais" so as to elongate our friendship, no [sic] compris!

Page 4 of 4:

nevertheless, I feel certain she'll make the guy a marvelous wife, I believe if I ever do see her alone, it would be

<sup>107</sup> Abbreviation of "Medical Doctor."

<sup>108</sup> Abbreviation of "Technician Fifth Grade," rank of the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1948.

<sup>109</sup> Abbreviation of "Technician Third Grade," rank of the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1948.

<sup>110</sup> Unidentified individual; perhaps a "war bride" from France.

nothing more than a reunion and a bunch of chatter. That was her sacrifice for getting to the states, marriage without love (which I am certain of) but her children if any, will have no life like her or her family and that's why she'll be happy and sincere.

If we do meet at the station (I bet there's a good price on that), you'll drink Cutty Sark<sup>111</sup> and so will Sid, and like it. Imagine a guy refusing a drink in a nite spot!!!! From the president of something or other, too!!!

Accept belated New Years greetings,  
Hope to deliver Sid's birthday greeting  
in person

Love

Smokey

P.S. I've finally latched on to a "51"<sup>112</sup> but  
you [wou]ld never catch me putting red ink in it!!

*Edition: Letter 12, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 18, [1946], [Manila, Philippines]*

Page 1 of 2:

Fri.

Jan. 18

Dearest,

Sweated out the phone service this afternoon but they couldn't squeeze me in. Got into an argument with the guy in charge—a looie<sup>113</sup> fresh from the States. You see I have a scheduled call for the 22<sup>nd</sup> but have been trying to get there sooner. He accused me of trying to bribe him and I accused him of brown nosing the higher brass so we're even. What a jerk! I'll pester him again tomorrow.

<sup>111</sup> A brand of Scotch whisky.

<sup>112</sup> Possibly a "Parker 51" fountain pen.

<sup>113</sup> Short for "lieutenant."

The 49 & 48 pointers are all in  
 the rep dep now and we tried today  
 to get in touch with our boy to find  
 out what the score is. The Old Man  
 was downtown today to see about  
 his orders (he's sweating too) and he says  
 they told him they expect to cut orders  
 on 45-6-7 point men early next week  
 which means—  
 I'm scared to write it.  
 Getting back to the phone call—

Page 2 of 2:

the thought occurred to me that you  
 might be P.O.'d on a/c I didn't call you in-  
 stead of Irv. First of all—if I called you  
 & spoke to you & Rho & then had to come  
 back here it'd be an awful letdown  
 and on top of hearing about Dad that  
 would be too much. Secondly—I'm  
 going to see you soon and I can wait.  
 Thirdly—I must give Irv instructions  
 on how to go about the Red X<sup>114</sup> business.  
 Comprenez vous?<sup>115</sup>

Went to the show last nite—"Dakota"<sup>116</sup>  
 a western—no more no less. Tonite  
 a mystery—"Crimson Canary"<sup>117</sup>— no-  
 thing else to do and it keeps me occu-  
 pied.

Got our boiler set up today and I've  
 got my fingers crossed. We'll light it up  
 tomorrow and it has to work on a/c  
 otherwise 18 or more guys will say "I  
 told you so."

Love you  
 but I told you so before  
 Sid

<sup>114</sup> Short for "Red Cross."

<sup>115</sup> French for "Do you understand?"

<sup>116</sup> American Western adventure film, released in 1945, starring John Wayne.

<sup>117</sup> American mystery film, released in 1945.

*Edition: Letter 13, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 19, [1946], Manila, Philippines*

Page 1 of 1 [additional page or pages lost]:

Sat.

Jan. 19

Dearest,

It was wonderful to talk to Itch<sup>118</sup> & a great relief to find out Pa was O.K. When he said you & Rho were in Chi[cago] my heart fell cause I knew that you'd be at Henrietta's.<sup>119</sup> Probably if I'd waited till my appointed time I could have spoken to you. That would have been the 22<sup>nd</sup> but I was worried and pulled all the strings I could find to get the call there sooner. I wish now that I'd waited. However that's all water over the damn dam damn!

We've received no air mail the past 3 days consequently I didn't even know you were planning on Chi[cago] I did get a regular mail letter today from Iris<sup>120</sup> dated Dec. 18 so I understand how come I owe her a letter.

My plans now are really changed.

First of all being as to how you're in Chi[cago] I'll want discharge there, 2<sup>nd</sup> Irv says that AGO<sup>121</sup> ok'd my release (in Wash<sup>122</sup>) on the 15<sup>th</sup> which means it has to come thru channels—WASH to AFPAC<sup>123</sup>—Manila to 8<sup>TH</sup> ARMY in YOKOHAMA<sup>124</sup> to ASCOM<sup>125</sup> to Bn. to 166<sup>th</sup> and the least time is 10 days. I expect to be in the rep dep by next Sat. so the papers probably will never catch up with me.

<sup>118</sup> Perhaps a nickname for Sid's brother Irving.

<sup>119</sup> Unidentified individual; also mentioned in letter 17.

<sup>120</sup> Unidentified individual; Iris is also mentioned in letter 6.

<sup>121</sup> Abbreviation for "Adjutant General's Office."

<sup>122</sup> Washington D.C.

<sup>123</sup> Abbreviation for "U.S. Army Forces, Pacific."

<sup>124</sup> City in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.

<sup>125</sup> Abbreviation for "Army Service Command."

There's only one thing left. I called  
Gen. Byers<sup>126</sup> office and he wont be in  
till Mon. A.M. That's the guy I had [loss]

*Edition: Letter 14, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 20, [1946], Manila, Philippines*

Mimeographed [printed] page:

ROUTINE CLEAR

MCN:	4277	SBE: VP
TOO:	191141 Z	USASCOMC DIST:
TOR:	200326 Z	ACTION: PERS (E)
REC'D	USASCOMC 1400 20 JAN 46	INFO: G-1
FROM:	CINGAFPAC	ORD
TO:	CG ASCOM C	SURG
INFO:	CG EIGHTH ARMY	FILE
CITE:	Z 47113	
GRANITE MOUNTAIN CITE WARTAG RAD SPXPF-A, W DASH US DASH		
THREE DASH FOUR SIX EIGHT FOUR ASP. SPECIAL TEC THREE SID GOLMAN [sic]		
THREE SIX SEVEN EIGHT THREE SEVEN NINE ONE. ONE SIX SIX ORD TIRE		
REPAIR CC, SERIOUSLY ILL FATHER. PUT HENRY HAUS SIX FIVE SIX TWO		
TWO ZERO FIVE. ONE SEVEN TWO STA HOSP, SERIOUSLY ILL WIFE.		
ROUTINE CLEAR		

Page 1 of 2:

Sunday

Jan. 20

Dearest,

I'm bout as nervous as a bride on  
her wedding nite. Can't imagine that a  
month from tomorrow will find me in  
Chicago. Went to the movie & saw Catherine  
the Great<sup>127</sup> for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time & enjoyed it again  
but if it had been the 22<sup>nd</sup> time I'd have en-  
joyed it as well. Its 11 P.M. & the mess hall  
just called; they're making pizza & I  
scored 4 cases of beer tonite so I'll stay  
up. No work tomorrow on a/c I'm going  
to try to see the General (wish me luck)  
to secure plane transportation and I'll  
take the rest of the day off to clean up  
my stuff. Our orders should be cut to-  
morrow and we should be in the

<sup>126</sup> See letter 7.

<sup>127</sup> Probably a reference to the American comedy-drama film, "A Royal Scandal," released in 1945, starring Tallulah Bankhead as Catherine the Great.

rep dep Tues. or Wed. if no snafu develops.

We've been reminiscing tonite & brought back a lot of memories (some pleasant & some unpleasant) of the past year. There are still a few of us from the orig. 232<sup>nd</sup> and one of the boys who is leaving with me has been with me since Atlanta.

Page 2 of 2:

We've been wondering about the change to civil life & laughing about how we'll have to watch our speech & actions.

I don't think it will be too hard.

Been conjuring up your face all day & it comes up perfect even to the mole on your upper lip, my left side. Rho is a bit harder cause she seems to have grown. Wondering bout her school & a jillion other things.

Love  
Sid

*Edition: Letter 15, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman],  
January 21, [1946], Manila, Philippines*

Form [printed; italics: typewritten data; both signatures are handwritten, in ink]:

WAR DEPARTMENT  
MESSAGEFORM

Date: 21 JAN 46

Telephone No. 43

AG-E

(Section)

File No. JSXE 201-GOLMAN [*sic*], SID (ENL)

Office of origin: HQ USASCOMC  
(Arm of Service)

[no data entered for: "(Division)," "(Branch)," and "(Symbol)" and section "PRECEDENCE"]

Address: APO 404

To: CO 166 ORD TIRE REPAIR CO  
APO 503

MESSAGE:

REQUEST MOS, ASRS, RACE, BRANCH OF SERVICE AND HOME ADDRESS OF  
T/3 SID GOLDMAN 36783791, BE SENT THIS HQ WITH LEAST POSSIBLE  
DELAY TO EFFECT RETURN OF EM TO US FOR EMERG FURLOUGH DUE SER-  
IOUSLY ILL FATHER. INDIVIDUAL WILL BE PROMPTLY INFORMED OF FUR  
AND RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Charles M. Williams [signature]

HYSSONG

CHARLES M. WILLIAMS

CAPT FA

ACTG ASST ADJ GEN

[stamp with numbers 00-23 around border, "RECEIVED 22 JAN 1946 Hqs. Base Ord."]  
 201-Goldman, Sidney (Enl) 1<sup>st</sup> Ind. JTR/sjr  
 HEADQUARTERS, 166<sup>TH</sup> ORDNANCE TIRE REPAIR COMPANY, APO 503, 23 January 1946.  
 TO: Headquarters, USASCOMC, APO 404.

1. In reference with above message the following information is submitted:

- a. MOS:<sup>128</sup> 240.
- b. ASRS: 46.
- c. Race: White.
- d. Branch of Service: Ord.
- e. Home Address: 1636 N. Shore Road., Revere, Mass.

John T. Radigan [signature]

JOHN T. RADIGAN

Capt., Ord Dept.,

Commanding

W.D., A.G.O. Form No. 801

August 11, 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT		MESSAGE FORM		Date 21 JAN 46												
File No. JSXE 201-GOLMAN, SID (ENL)				Telephone No. 43												
Office of origin HQ USASCOMC (Arm of service)	(Division)	(Branch)	AG-E (Section)	(Symbol)												
Address APO 404																
<b>To:</b> CO 166 ORD TIRE REPAIR CO APO 503		<b>P R E C E D E N C E</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>WIRE OR RADIO</td> <td>ESSENTIAL MILITARY MAIL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urgent</td> <td>Air mail</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Priority</td> <td>Special delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Routine</td> <td>Ordinary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>Registered</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week end</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Any message not X'd for precedence will be sent "Deferred."</p>			WIRE OR RADIO	ESSENTIAL MILITARY MAIL	Urgent	Air mail	Priority	Special delivery	Routine	Ordinary	Deferred	Registered	Week end	
WIRE OR RADIO	ESSENTIAL MILITARY MAIL															
Urgent	Air mail															
Priority	Special delivery															
Routine	Ordinary															
Deferred	Registered															
Week end																
		Initial of officer assigning precedence														
<b>MESSAGE:</b> REQUEST MOS, ASRS, RACE, BRANCH OF SERVICE AND HOME ADDRESS OF <u>T/3 SID GOLMAN 36783791</u> , BE SENT THIS HQ WITH LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY TO EFFECT RETURN OF EM TO US FOR EMERG FURLough DUE SER- IOUSLY ILL FATHER. INDIVIDUAL WILL BE PROMPTLY INFORMED OF FUR AND RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.																
 CHARLES M. WILLIAMS CAPT FA ACTG ASST ADJ GEN		HYSSONG  JOHN T. RADIGAN Capt., Ord Dept., Commanding														
<small>W. D. A. G. O. Form No. 801            August 11, 1944</small>																

Figure 6: Letter 15, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], January 21, [1946], Manila, Philippines [War Department, Message Form].

<sup>128</sup> Abbreviation for "months of service."

Page 1 of 3:

Monday

1–21

Dearest,

They've got me hanging on a string  
& really sweating. The General is away  
on a trip and his aide says that if I can  
get word from Red X that my furlough  
has been authorized his office will  
cut air orders immediately. I find out  
that Red X in U.S. doesn't cable Red X here  
unless the people at home specifically  
request it. I don't know whether Irv  
did that or not so it looks like I'll  
come back by boat anyway. So far they  
haven't cut any orders on 45's but our  
boy (who has 45 points) took today off  
so that he could pack his clothes. He  
still says we should be in the depot  
by Wed. & then it will be too late to do  
anything about Red X.

Glad you liked the pictures. I have  
been getting fat this past month on a/c  
chow is good and I'm not doing  
any work even tho I'm on two  
jobs. I'm glad Rho liked the pic of me

Page 2 of 3:

in the sack<sup>129</sup> in what the boys call my  
most natural position. I thought she  
would.

You sounded like you looked sharp  
at the wedding & that's the way I want  
you to look—always. Can't say I  
go for that long hair do tho.

We all got a big laugh out of you  
& Shir—I vote you- Heard near riots  
in Yoko<sup>130</sup> hunch you were in vanguard  
I vote Shir—Saw mass meeting 8<sup>th</sup> Army

<sup>129</sup> Slang term for "bed."

<sup>130</sup> Short for "Yokohama;" late 1945/early 1946 saw numerous near-mutinies of U.S. Armed Forces servicemembers demanding to be demobilized.

& I hope you were there rallying the guys  
around in greater numbers than the crap  
games. Hope you sounded off. End quote.  
Hope you're both satisfied cause I did  
my best.

Somehow I had a hunch you would  
take off for Chi[cago] on the slightest provo-  
cation. Probably a good deal tho I did  
want to see Ma & Bern & Estelle.<sup>131</sup> May-  
be we can take a trip East before I  
settle down to work.

How's it feel not to write cause

Page 3 of 3:

I'll probably be on or close to a boat by  
the time you get this? I just gotta get  
home in exactly 30 days (or less) on  
a/c today is 1/21.

Haven't been able to get out to find  
out about Rho's doll on a/c I've been  
sleeping close to the phone.

See you soon & I do mean  
soon!

Love  
Sid

*Edition: Letter 16, Capt. John T. Radigan to Headquarters, USASCOMC,  
January 23, [1946], [no location given]*

Form/official notice [typed]:

201-Goldman, Sidney (Enl) 1<sup>st</sup> Ind. JTR/sjr  
HEADQUARTERS, 166<sup>TH</sup> ORDNANCE TIRE REPAIR COMPANY, APO 503, 23 January 1946.  
TO: Headquarters, USASCOMC, APO 404.

1. In reference with above message the following information is submitted:

- a. MOS: 240.
- b. ASRS: 46.
- c. Race: White.
- d. Branch of Service: Ord.
- e. Home Address: 1636 N. Shore Road., Revere, Mass.

JOHN T. RADIGAN  
Capt., Ord Dept.,  
Commanding

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<sup>131</sup> Unidentified individuals; also mentioned on the envelope (back) of letter 11.

*Edition: Letter 17, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], before or on January 23, [1946] [Manila, Philippines]*

Photograph [Sidney Goldman]:



*Figure 7: Letter 17, Letter 17, Sid[ney Goldman] to [Lillian Goldman], Undated, [no location given] [enclosed photograph of Sid Goldman].*

Page 1 of 1 [top portion damaged]:

and [loss]  
with our [loss]  
still trying [loss] to hear so [loss]  
thing before I go to bed.  
I know you're enjoying Henrietta<sup>132</sup> &  
Adolph<sup>133</sup> & the kids & probably eating like  
a horse. I shouldn't have any trouble  
getting the steak etc. wow. So many  
things I want to ask you such as how  
everyone is & how Chi[cago]. looks etc. but

---

<sup>132</sup> Unidentified individual; also mentioned in letter 13.

<sup>133</sup> Unidentified individual.

if everything works (what a longshot!)  
I'll soon know.

Love,  
Sid

P.S. !FLASH!!  
ATTENTION!!  
Our boy just called. "All  
45 pointers will be in  
the depot by Wed. 1/23  
the latest as per tele-  
type orders.

Happy Anniversary &  
Love &  
STUFF LIKE THAT THE [loss]  
P.S. Your copies of these  
pictures went to Boston.  
Please pass these out.  
STOP WRITING!

*ABOUT THE EDITOR: Michael A. Conti of Mission Viejo, California, earned both his B.A. in History with a minor in Political Science (2019) and his M.A. in History (2022) at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), where he is a member of the Theta-Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society). He also served as an editor for volume 49 of "The Welebaethan: A Journal of History" (2022).*

*ABOUT THE EDITOR: Jacob Lange of Cypress, California, earned his B.A. in History and Political Thought at Concordia University, Irvine (2021). He is currently pursuing an M.A. in History at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF).*

*ABOUT THE EDITOR: Desiree Montes of Anaheim, California, earned both her B.A. in History with a minor in Geography (2019) and her M.A. in History (2022) at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), where she is a member of the Theta-Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society). She also served as an editor for volume 49 of "The Welebaethan: A Journal of History" (2022).*

*ABOUT THE EDITOR: Melissa Sanford of Highland, California, earned her B.A. in History at California State University, San Bernardino (2019). She is currently pursuing an M.A. in History at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF).*

*The primary-source edition published above originated in the "History and Editing" course offered by CSUF's History Department.*