Chase, Human Y. -1944 (holograph)

MSRC Staff

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Italy
8 August 44

Dear Dr. Johnson,

Just a few lines from one of the many Defenders of the Faith who are now scattered to the four corners of the earth to insure that our American way of life might endure. I cannot help thinking of you as the summer slowly passes on and I look back to a similar month of August ten years ago. Then, with my wife at my side, I was completing the requirements for the doctorate and making plans for my return to Howard University. We were flushed with the glory of a
task well done and we had dedicated
ourselves to a life of service. For each
of us there was fresh in our minds
the certain acts of kindness and
friendship which had made our success
possible. For my part those thoughts
of friendship are so fresh as if it were
only yesterday.

Now we are here overseas, and
a goodly number of Howardites are
among us. We know something of
the vagaries of life and of fortune. We
will serve in the common cause
and look forward to that day when
we can turn homeward to those
we love and to be with those with
whom we came to be associated. Although I am positive that another school year will begin in my continued absence, I take this opportunity wishing my colleagues well and of hoping for each student the he or she will take the maximum advantage of every opportunity to become fitted for a part in life’s great battle.

With warmest personal regards for your family and best wishes to my friends at the University.

Sincerely yours,

Hyman Y. Chase