

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 as 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 all 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 of wishing my colleagues well and of hoping for each student that 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