

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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Gordon "Gordy" Brule

[Archive]: World War II Bomber letters

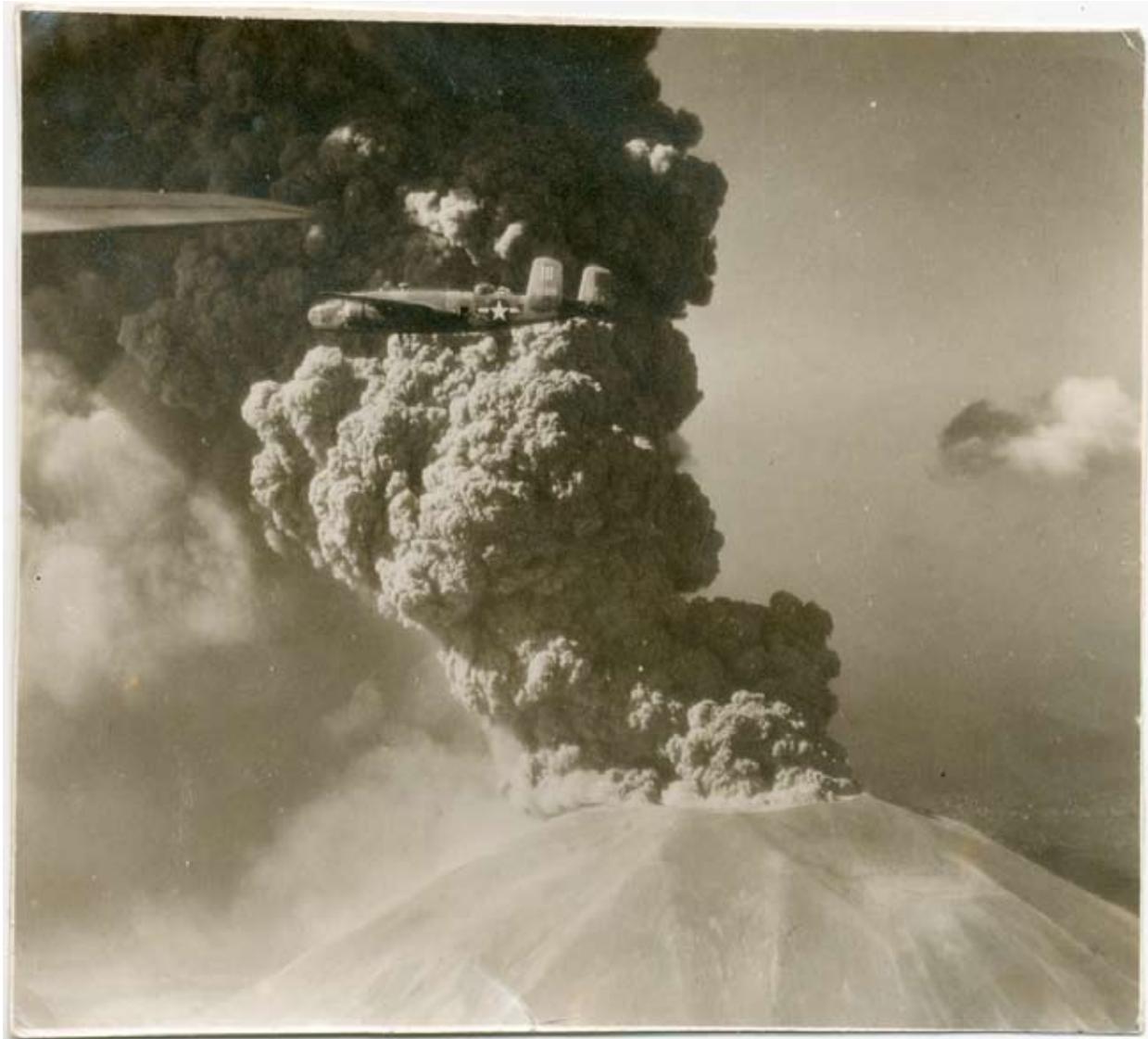
New York, Italy, 1943-1947

\$600



A collection of 77 letters, 2 cards and 1 sepia toned photograph to Lieutenant Gordon Bruce of the 447th Bomb Squad in New York during World War II. All letters are about very good or better with modest age toning and tears from opening.

Within the collection Gordon 'Gordy' Brule receives a majority of the letters from his girlfriend Freida, and another woman, Pauline, who although she describes herself as a 'friend' has an ongoing flirtation with Gordon. This is seen throughout their correspondence, as she refers to herself as 'your Cupcake', and goes as far as saying she 'will beg for a picture' to show off to her friends how 'handsome' he is, before ending one letter with a lipstick kiss. These letters coincide with Freida's, who writes with regards to marriage and how she thinks it would be best to wait, as "ever since the war began I swore I wouldn't be married in war time."



Amidst these letters Gordon receives one from Ruth, who is writing to request he doesn't send any money to her husband, who after he "slapped [her] and told [her] to get out" after revealing he was having an affair and wanted a divorce. Ruth's request to not send any money was done with the intention of insuring he would not be able to afford one, as she didn't "feel he should be able to get a divorce because he doesn't have any right to get married again."

From a memo present from the Office of the Commanding General dated May 1947 it is evident Gordon Bruce made a career of the military, with his family eventually moving out to Hawaii to reduce the "hardships and distresses often caused by protracted separations of the members of a family."

This group of letters provides a direct insight into the pressures and strains placed on individuals and their relationships during the war, and together with two Christmas cards from Freida to Gordon, a telegram, and a photograph of bomber planes over Mt. Vesuvius, make for an insightful collection. [\[BTC#394887\]](#)