Good Evening Sweetheart;

I just got a letter from you but I’ll have to give you a little lecture. It started out by stating that you had not written the day before then, after one page you told me that you had to go to bed, then the next day you added a few more pages. You’re shipping Honey. I love to get your letters so please try to write as often as you can won’t you Honey. They are about the only thing that gives me any hope at all. The letters and my dreams of things to come. These are perhaps the very most discouraging days I have ever spent in all my life or shall ever spend. Time seems to be conspiring, right along with the army officers, [scratched out word] to prolong our troubles as much as possible. In times like these I have to think often and hard of you my Darling and your letters help an awful lot. Just keep them coming as often as you can and make them as long as you can Honey. I need them all. Of course what I really need here is you. You could solve all my problems swiftly and so very simply by just being with me and being my wife. That’s absolutely all I shall ever needs or ever ask for.

I’m enclosing a negative of a picture of myself in this letter. The fellow who took it wants to keep the print he got and is giving me the negative instead. It was taken back of the barracks with Kunai grass (a short variety of the stuff) and a banana tree in the background. The tents in the background are a sort of casual camp where AA troops passing through here live. The regular guards also live there. The building in the distance on the left of the picture is the Villa Grenialt where there is

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A swimming pool (for the exclusive use of officers naturally since they would not want to contaminate it with enlisted me – and who could blame them). In the foreground you will see something looming large and blotting out a goodly part of the landscape; that’s me. Surprise!!! I’ll have more pictures for you soon. Don’t forget to send me any stray ones you may have taken. I’m always anxious to enlarge my collection. I’m going to make an album to keep them in so they will keep well.

I had a little fun today. I did a cartoon of the chief of staff and four other officers sitting in nice easy chairs in the officers’ quarters with drinks in their hands. The chief of staff is telling the others.

“Reveille, retreat, Saturday inspections, guard. They’re all very good but there must be other ways of making life miserable for the enlisted men in the short time they’ll be here.”

One of the fellows in the office showed it to [scratched out word] Colonel Baben who rushed in to show it to the chief of staff. It made the rounds of all the offices and all the officers and is now hanging on the bulletin board in front of the office. It is about my best work in the way of cartoons and I think I will take it down to the Daily Pacifican to see if they can use it. The likenesses are quite good, that of the chief of staff is excellent. It is about my best caricature to date. Maybe I could even get on the staff of the Pacifican, maybe, although they have a couple of artists already and possibly don’t need another. If I could get in I’d get away from all the CS we have around here at least. That would be something very nice.

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I’ll have to quite doing envelopes for other fellows because it takes too much of my time for the monetary compensation I receive. The ones I am doing now are more complicated than the ones I used
to do, and I can’t afford to do them any more. I still have five which John Reller has already paid for and as soon as I finish those my shingle comes down. There are a lot of other things I have to do and I’ll have to get to them soon. The envelopes I do now take me over an hour to do from start to finish, plus the time I have to spend hunting for an inspiration.

The mosquitos here are really terrific. The DET spraying has worn off and they are back in full strength now. I hope the give it another dose of the “miracle insecticide” because that stuff really does work miracles where insects are concerned.

Excuse the half hour delay Darling. I just took a little time out to play with my latest girl friend who is right next to me here on the bed. She is now trying to pull off the towel I am wearing, which is my only coverage too. She’s rather an audacious little bitch. I just patted her on the rump and she got quite mad about it. I think she rather likes me all the same though. Now she’s trying to look coy. I think she wants to be played with. She just bit me a minute or two ago and I can still feel it. These women, they’re all like. I think I forgot to introduce you to her Dolores meet Skippy, Skippy this is Dolores. Skippy is a very nice little puppy, a girl puppy and don’t ask me how I know either. She is about ten inches long overall and is a very well mannered lady. She just fell asleep on the bunk so I will sketch her if she’s still here when I finish this letter.

That is one thing we’ll have to get in time to take with us on our vacation. No, I guess we won’t need it on the vacation because puppies present too much of a problem. We will have to get one after we’re married though. I like dogs, just about all varieties of them except the huge species (great danes, wolfhounds, etc), of chows, and of the peke and pomeranian variety.

The fellows have been giving me a pep talk on joining the enlisted men’s club here now that my objections to it, namely the non membership of privates and the running of the club by a small clique, have been eliminated. I may join it. The dues are only five pesos a month and they cool [scratched out word] your beer. That in itself is just about worth it. I may join. I’m not sure. It would be nice in one way though because, when Mac or some of the other fellows come up of an evening, I’ll have some place to take them for a friendly drink or two. The drinks here cost about 1/3 what they are in town, not that I intend to become a heavy drinker or even a fairly regular one, but it would be nice to be able to get a mixed drink once in a while. It may be a good deal.

Speaking of drink Honey, that is one thing I want to have around when we take our vacation. Just enough for a sociable drink once in a while. I can assure you that liquor never makes me mean the way it does some people but that I become quite sociable under its influence. I’ve never seen you even feeling good, you always went to sleep on me. I’ll have to see

How you react to it. I remember one very nice story I read once. It was written by a Scandinavian author and concerned a couple who married and then retired to the grooms’ apartment for their honeymoon. There they had case after case of champagne and they went to bed and drank champagne, and loved, and laughed, and were two of the happiest people in the world. This went on for weeks and they were
the happiest of couples, distributed only by the housekeeper, a very sympathetic soul. His relatives, disturbed because they thought he’d squander all the money he had (which they felt to be coming to them through inheritance), got a doctor who examined him and declared him insane or a chronic alcoholic, I forget which, and put him away. His wife, robbed of her husband in the first full flush of conjugal pleasure, became ill and died. I thought that this was a wonderful story up to where the relatives stepped in. They were a perfectly happy couple, idyllically so. We too shall be idyllically happy Honey. We shall be the happiest couple in all the world because we do love each other so very much.

In your letter you told me that you did not think you were really as wonderful as I say. It’s absolutely the opposite Sweetheart, believe me, for words are quite inadequate to express the full wonderfulness of you. You are just the most wonderful person in the world. I can never adequately describe how beautiful you are for instance. Darling, you are the most beautiful and the shapeliest woman I know. You are just exactly what the doctor order for me. I want to make you not only the most wonderful person in the world but also the happiest. I feel sure that I can make you completely happy too because I want to so very much. When you said that you were literally starved for me, you hit upon a word which I have been trying to find for a long time. It is a feeling just as bad as extreme thirst or hunger. I yearn with all my being for the day when we can enjoy the physical aspects of married love. I’m sure you’ll enjoy this part just as much as I do, and that is as it should be. I am not the kind of man who would appreciate prudish behavior in my wife. A couple should be able to say or do absolutely anything to each other and be sure that there would be no embarrassment or being shocked by either one. A couple who go into marriage thinking that anything at all about the complete acceptance of the partners’ body is wrong, are starting out on the wrong foot. I am thinking specifically of Neva who, I am sure, would frown on certain aspects of it all. I don’t see how she and Bob can ever be completely happy as you and I shall be. I want to take advantage of all that our marriage means and get the last full measure of happiness from it. I don’t want to repress myself or deny myself any of the pleasures. I know you feel the same way and for this reason I know that our marriage just can’t fail but be happy.

You know Darling, I feel rather sorry for your mother since you once told me that she had never experienced real pleasure from her married life. I can assure you that her daughter definitely shall find pleasure in it, and great pleasure too. I want to tell you just how happy I shall be, and shall try to make you, but I find that words are all too inadequate and that I can do is say the same words over and over. And still I try since I want to remind you constantly of how nice our life together shall be.

They are [scratched out words] planning a big recruitment drive here in the near future and I understand that a recruiting officer is going to interview each one of us individually. That I am waiting for. I want to hear him tell me just what a wonderful place the army is. There are about a dozen fellows here in the Command who are all ready to sign up as soon as they accept enlistments. There are a lot of others following suit. They can, I’m the civilian type of individual myself.

Well, Darling, I shall kiss you goodnight and leave you sending you
All my love,

Freddie

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[Drawing of skippy the puppy laying down]