Good Evening My Beautiful Darling,

You will have to pardon me if this letter gets rather jumbled up, it's only because this is a Dutch typewriter and there are about a dozen extra keys on the thing. There is a complete extra row of keys on the right hand side of the thing, a little matter of confusion when it comes to shifting to write caps. It prints a slash instead. Confuzin' but amuzin' wot? I do like the type of letter it prints though.

Tonight they issued us our extra sets of sun tans and I, as well as the majority of the other fellows, really got misfitted. I haven't had such out sized clothing since I first came in at my induction center. In the first place I got four shirts but only three pair of trousers. The shirts were a size 15 collar, I wear a 15½, and a 35 sleeve, I wear a 32 or 33 at the most. As one of the boys in the tent said though the shirt will keep my hands warm. The trousers were the right waist size, 33, but the legs were 35. I will be wearing a very reat cuff on my pants unless the supply room comes to my immediate rescue. I'll have to give them a buzz the first thing tomorrow morning to see if they will consider refitting me, or whether they are going to be the cause of American soldiers ceasing to be known as the best dressed soldiers in the world.

You seem to run into a lot of trouble in wrapping my packages don't you Sweet. In the letter which I am answering tonight you tell of your trials and tribulations in trying to get the maximum amount of stuff in and still sliding the package under the weight wire. Don't worry though Darling because it can't last forever even though it seems as though it might. When things seem tough to you remember what Howie Shugerman used to say, "Things are tough everywhere". Ouch! Don't hit me I was merely trying to keep up your morale. After all, you did inflict that terrible pun about the package being way (weigh) overweight. That was very bad, believe me, and I want none of those things appearing in any subsequently. See!

You can rest assured that I will enjoy the peanut butter and jelly that you sent very much. And you also have my deepest sympathy and thanks for eating a can of soup so I could have the can for the jelly you sent. That was a very noble thing for you to do.
I hope that you like the envelopes I am decorating. If this is what you meant when you said your father liked unusual letters I will keep it up with this same idea of illustration. If he'd like something different tell me and I will oblige. Kowalchuk tells me that if I made a few envelopes quite roughly they would make good additions to any collection so I'll try that too. Be sure to tell me if your father has any more suggestions about how I can give him some good items for his collection.

I'm glad that my letter was in time to prevent you from sending me the Vienna sausages and the Spam. If there are any two items of which I get my fill, these are they (that is the correct way to say that isn't it?) and they are what I do not want to receive and what every person who sends things to soldiers puts in the package. The delicacies of life are what we seem to get in abundance over here. We have a lot of Spam (what an understatement that was), Vienna sausages, tuna and salmon, and a lot of other items that are unavailable in the States. How come, I do not know. What I'd like in the way of canned foods are jams and jellies, fruits of all kinds, sardines if you can ever find any (I never could when I was home), occasionally, because it so expensive and can't be sent regularly, some canned chicken. Just about everything else except the big three of Voyager sausages, Spam, and salmon and tuna, is OK.

There's a story behind the little codger on the envelope of this letter. Remember my telling you about that job I had as an artist at Lowry Field? Well, the first job I had to do there was to illustrate a manual using this good gremlin, and a bad one who is even more of a favorite with me than this one is if only I can remember how to draw him, to illustrate the way to do the various things that were to be done. The bad gremlin naturally was always gumming up the works. It was a lot of fun drawing these figures, especially since I had a fellow supervising the job who made me toe the mark and get a little life into the characters. Don't forget to tell me if you like him.

I almost forgot to tell you that I think it was wonderful of you to put the Venison and Cheese in the package you sent. Both of those are great favorites with me and I am looking forward to getting the box very anxiously.

I'll see what I can do about figuring out what kind of addition you would like to have on the house plan you sent me. I'll
send them to you as soon as I finish them. I hope they turn all right. I'll devote much thought to working out this problem.

That business of trying to figure out just how that little deal with Cardy's was brought about seems rather muddled to me but I guess you are a very good business woman since we seem to be getting an extra place setting for the same amount of money we would have had to pay for five. Keep up the good work Kid you're doing great. Since it is impossible to get good linen, and crystal is high with very little selection, it might be a good idea if we just concentrated on the smaller items of furniture and saved the bigger part of the money so that you could get the bedroom set at the first opportunity. That is something we will need right off the bat. I intend to see quite a bit of that particular bit of furniture when I get back Darlington, and not alone either.

I have firmly fixed the fact that your birthday is on June 8 in my mind. At last I think that I have that straight. Now I'll have to find out when Mom's birthday is so I can remember her too. And you're going to be 21 years old too. I'm sorry that I couldn't even remember that but I have an atrocious memory when it comes to remembering ages and all allied materials. Just think how nice that will be when you are older and cut down on your age a little bit. I'll never be able to blurt out as a contradiction. I'd be worth marrying for that reason alone if you didn't have any better reason, but I do hope that you have many better reasons than that one for loving me.

It's too bad that Pop lost that letter you gave him to mail. I haven't yet received it but will let you know if I do. I hope you gave him the devil quite properly, but not too much. We can't have him losing them any more though because they are very precious to me and are the thing I look forward to getting more than anything else.

Kowalchuk and I came up here a little earlier to write but found that everybody had selected this same night to come up here. We went back to the tent, where I decorated this letter, and then later came back here to typewrite in peace. The lights in the tents are now out and I am glad that I have my flashlight in my pocket so I can facilitate the process of getting myself into bed. Not that I really need it mind you because I am so tired that I should fall asleep immediately if not much sooner. Right about now is when I would so like to have your head resting right next
to mine on the same pillow with your arms around me, your beautiful face before me so I could lean over and kiss those delicious lips of yours which I so sorely miss. They are very wonderful and were just made to be kissed by me and by no other. Darling! Darling! I do miss you so very much that it hurts and will continue to hurt until I am once again in those arms of yours.

I must leave you now to go to an empty bed where I hope that I shall be rewarded with very sweet dreams of you, as which dream of you could be anything but sweet. Goodnight now SweetHeart, I love you.

Always,

[Signature]