My Sweet Darling:

I finally decided to try my hand at typing another letter to you. As usual it is hotter than the devil here and I am uncomfortable as hell. What I would give to be up in New Hampshire now with the temperature about twenty below and snow all over the ground. Of course we'd have to be on that vacation of ours or it wouldn't be so much fun, in fact nothing I do without you is ever any fun. You're such wonderful company Darling.

I had quite a dream last night, I dreamt that we were on the start of our vacation after the war and that we were at my house, everything was fine except that I could not get you alone. The family just wouldn't let us by ourselves. It was a very gruelling experience especially since just at the time in the dream when I finally was alone with you, I awoke! That was a dirty trick on the part of the dream because you can well imagine that I was very much interested in the outcome of the dream. Oh well! There'll be others I hope.

One of the fellows I know just came down with scrub typhus, this is a nasty fever which lasts for quite a while. The mortality rate used to be very high because no one knew just what it was or how to treat it. At the present time they still don't know what it is but they do know that it is caused by a tick and that the best way to treat it is by letting the fever run its course and give the patient what relief you can for the fever. Since they have started treating it this way the casualties have been cut down to practically nothing. It is still bad though.

One of the other nice things about the South Sea paradies, the medicos have done a swell job of controlling most of these tropical diseases but it's one hell of a job. One of the most prevalent afflictions is ringworm, usually contracted by the men when they have to wear the same clothing for extended periods of time. These are not the everyday variety of ringworm either because some of them grow to a diameter of over one foot. That's a fact because I've seen some myself. All you can do is just put on the medicos vegetable dye and sweat it out. We've been careful and fortunate and have been bothered by nothing except my prickly heat which at present is quite negligible. A little one goes a long way in avoiding their tropical diseases, and there's one careful boy who intends to do a maximum of avoiding while he's over here.

These Japanese are getting rather personal about this whole thing and are beginning to kill men. How on earth have planned for so long to some day get up to the Philip...
figured and if possible visit the city of Manila, and what do those damned Japs do but go and set fire to the whole downtown district of Manila, my current Mecca to which I had so longingly looked forward, making a pilgrimage to some near that. When they start stripping in the face of my acquisitions Chow's that for a metaphor. They got a million of them, a das good or as bad if you please, so that one they'd better wash out. For they have had me looking at their whole races in a rather impersonal light, but at the rate they're going they are really washing out to really set fired in their head, I should give them something to think about. Against the United Nations they have a chance, but against the United Nations plus our military power, well, all to say is that they know what's good for them. They'll cease this stuff, I shall always
be grateful to something in Lodge, California. I hope they take that counsel and wind up the war in the Pacific to B can get back when I belong in your being armed, such beautiful arms too. And so I go on and wonder when can I think of anything to write you with you getting these looking so red nice. Anyone might think you were deliberately trying to desert me, yet I couldn't write. And stop rolling those
false eyes at me you'll have a kiss to your troubles. There, don't say you didn't ask for it. Sigh!!!! That was quite nice. I might just have to do, so don't go too far away.

I told you didn't I that I owned the very prized possession of a half bottle of ink obtained by midnight requisition from the orderly room of the 382nd Regt. Co. It wasn't really put to any good use the and I most certainly can use it for my sketching. If I get the chance to do a sketch tonight I'll enclose it in this letter. There's a quiz show how tonight between the WACs and guy so I guess I'll have something to sketch. If I can find a seat in the back of the room somewhere where I can work modestly, I'd

there was one job I could get where I'd be able to make use of my art work instead of working in the office. I'd feel much more at home with a drawing pen or pencil in my hand than I do seated at that damned typewriter.
something else I'll have to do before Saturday to put some
Coast artillery braid on my hat. I have slate with an corps braid,
military police braid, medic braid, and now I have to get Coast
Artillery braid. It is a nice solid red braid and in my opinion
looks like hell, but I suppose I shouldn't be biased to the
branch of service which finally made it possible for me to cease
being d g i orphan and be assigned. I still don't care for their
braid though.

Our test was inspected yesterday and was found to be
unworthy of praise. In a word, I was informed that "the police
was bad." Of course that wasn't so bad considering that some
of the tests were classified as being "very bad." It seems that a
test in "bad" condition results in a little black mark going
down in the book for us and enough little black marks result
in an unsatisfactory mark on more report cards. On the other
hand, if we pass with flying colors, I guess we get a gold star
posted on our cards in the order of that blue star received
in A 5 T. Do you still have that, Darling? You did a very good
job of sewing that one so good that if I hadn't been engaged to
you then I would have decided to marry you anyway. I think
I made up my mind that I was going to marry you quite a
while before actually asked you. Probably even earlier than
the time you decided I was going to marry you. It couldn't
have been a better decision on either of our parts. I think we
both showed excellent judgment.

See what a good boy I am. There are Wacos in the
main room of the Red Cross building and still don't have
been casting a glance in their direction. Of course, when I finish
this letter I'll go out to watch the gung show. I'm only doing this
so I can sketch you understand! Purely an impersonal act.
Let's let for a minute you thought I just wanted to see the Waco.
Suspicious girl! You should know me better than that. Oh,
you do know me better than that. Huh! Well, all I can say is that things have come to a pretty pass when I am suspected of being interested in other women merely because I haven't seen one close up for five months and there happen to be a few at headquarters. Why don't you come over here Darling? I only wish we could be together. My, my, but you're certainly going to be a very demonstratively loved young lady once. I get my tentacles on you—my proud and fair beauty. Oh, that that day should come soon, sweetheart, I miss you so very much, and you are so very nice, and I do love you an awful lot more than you can ever realize.

The work here is quite exciting and I really have to be on the ball in order not to make any mistakes. If a mistake is made, the work has to be done over and over and over until it is just so. For most of us 30 day clerks this is quite a big order. Demaguer a lot of the officers and regular clerks feel like having their tails out about apparent ignorance of the arts and wiles of the job of an army clerk. I guess we'll learn in time, though if we just don't disrupt the whole structure of the 14th ADA Command Headquarters in the process of learning. I just hope that none of these people hold our ignorance of clerking against us. Because after all, the Army assigned us here and it had nothing to do with it. I would be happier about the whole thing if they just gave me some tools and let me work on some machines. As long as they have made me a clerk, however, I'll give them the best job of clerking that I can and that's all I can do.

Well, my sweet, now that I have unburdened my troubles on you I will close this letter giving you a nice big goodnight kiss to remind you how very much I shall love you.

Always,

Neddie