Sweetest Dolores;

Today I got three of your letters. They were written the 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} of November. It was so good to hear from you again Darling, I guess you know the feeling since you tell me that you’re haunting the mailman I also have strong suspicions that somewhere, in some far and forgotten corner lie the letters I have not yet received.

I was very sorry to hear that Tommy didn’t pass in code. I know it meant an awful lot to him and know that he must feel bad about it. They will probably give him a chance at something else though. I personally think that it’s just as well he didn’t become a radio gunner because that’s rather a rough deal. On the other hand, I was very glad to hear that you hit Hoffer’s exam for a 97. You know what that means don’t you? Mother and your father will be sure that it was my fault your marks were not up to par last year. It really wasn’t though was it? Well, maybe a little but not an awful lot.

Your book on “Colonial Furniture” sounds interesting. So you’re going to put me to work building furniture eh. What about that honeymoon of six month’s duration? You’ll have to postpone the furniture making for a while because when I get back I’m going to be mainly interested in two articles of furniture a table and a bed, the bed mainly since it is such an all important item of furniture. It has so many possibilities or haven’t you ever given the matter any thought. Think it over and you’ll see what I mean.

It was good to hear that mother [scratched out word] misses me.

2.

I miss her and the Robson hospitality and will certainly be glad to get back to it. Don’t ever think that I miss her daughter any less though because in reality I miss Mrs. Robson’s daughter more than anyone ever has been or ever will be missed. I love you so Sweetheart. Here’s a nice big kiss for you, one of the kind you go beside the fireplace that last night.

Friday Morning:

I had to go to bed since it was quite late and I’ll undoubtedly be quite a busy fellow today. The rest of the boys did quite a bit of heavy work all last night and so I guess that today the fates will catch up to me. It really rained last night too. One of the heaviest downpours yet. It down poured terrifically for about an hour or more, long enough to thoroughly soak the clothing Redmon and I had drying on the line. We did another laundry yesterday as you may gather from this. It was quite a job but with two of us it wasn’t bad. We boiled them again.

Redmon tells me that he saw a butterfly with a wingspread of almost a foot. It had been attracted by one of the lights near there. He was so fascinated by it that he just sat there watching it. He caught a few winks of sleep last night – Redmon not the butterfly – on the hood of a jeep. I guess a G.I. can sleep just about anywhere.

That picture “The Mask of Dimitrios” was quite good they have a very good idea here and that is the reading of war news before the showing of the picture each night. That keeps us up with the times
quite effectively and also quite painlessly. The news is better now than it was a few days ago. It may be
that we are seeing the waning months of the war. They could never come too

soon for me.

It’s so damned hot and sticky here that I am really uncomfortable. Sweat pours off me as I just
sit there writing to you. This is one hell of a place to be and it has disrupted all my dreams of beautiful
topical isles resting like jewels in an azure sea. Speaking of azure seas, the Pacific is probably the
smoothest body [scratched out word] of water I have ever seen outside of the mill ponds back home. I
thought there would be huge waves buffeting us all around but almost all the way over it was as smooth
as glass, even when it rained. It was a very clear blue too and looked quite nice, if only I hadn’t spent an
uninterrupted stretch of weeks aboard the ship I could probably have enjoyed the view.

Any ideas you may have from looking at mops of New Guinea are to be discounted. For one
thing it is a hell of a big place. It’s “twice the size of Japan and larger than Germany” according to our
Pocket Guide to the island. All the cities you see marked on the map are not cities. They are marked
because there were three native huts clustered within 10 square miles. It is desolate and before the war
there were no roads here. I guess white men hardly ever penetrated beyond the coastline and the river
banks. We’ve done a good job of building roads now though and the regions around installations have
been very well cleared of diseases. There are a lot of tropical diseases to be caught here if we don’t take
good care of ourselves but we are given all the tips necessary to avoid any diseases and since these
measures are very simple you can be assured that I will return to you safe and

4.
sound.

Well, I did a modicum of work this morning and had to sweep out some puddles in the area so
that the sun would dry out the water faster. A very essential task make no mistake because these
damned puddles are favorite haunts of all these insects out here.

I just happened to think of that eating place we went to with the Osgood’s. That was a very nice
meal and I enjoyed it very much. The Osgoods a wonderful people. Give them my regards will you and
thank them again for me for all they did for us. I would like to be there with you now. Has Jack Osgood
finished his training yet? I imagine Mr & Mrs. Osgood are quite worried about him aren’t they?

Well, Sweetheart, I’ll close now sending you all my love and kisses and telling you that I love you

Always and All Ways

Freddie