





UNITED STATES NAVY

Nov. 2. 1943.

Dearest Darlene,

Here comes the letter you're worrying about. What kind it will be I can't tell, as there are numerous shipping hammers and what not hanging away here. I've tried to get more leave but it has been turned down twice. I was never much good on the odd picking business anyhow. I haven't heard anymore about the transfers, but there are all kinds of rumors floating around, of course you can't believe any of them. It looks as if we will be here awhile yet, today more of the crew are going away on a six day leave, that is those that haven't had any.

The weather down here is a long ways from the sunny South, maybe we aren't far enough south.

Mommy I'm glad you didn't come to the station with me if it was such a miserable night and your tooth would certainly have been worse with more cold in it. I wish you would get that



WAX SEALS SETTING

taken care of as soon as possible. Another thing, I have a small memory picture of you all there together and that's the way I like it.

A lot of the gang are coming back from leave today, that's the ones that left after we came back. They're all full of stories about the 4th and their pits etc. Write and let me know if you hear anything from John, especially if he is here in Norfolk. Mike is due back today he got a leave when I came back. Say hello to the Musketeers for me, all but they're all lost that's by now. I didn't know I brought an extra one, as there was one in my ditty bag when I got back, I hope it wasn't one of them. Well morning this is all for now and I think your troubles will be short lived if you don't worry yourself into them.

Yours
Parker



UNITED STATES NAVY



10. Nov. 1943.

n. va.

My Sweet Darling,

I received your letter that was post marked 7th today. I was certainly surprised Honey. It was the meanest thing to a love letter that you have ever written me. Honey you asked me to open my heart and bare my soul to you. I don't know just how good I am at confessions, but I'll try. First of all mommy, I love you, utterly, devotedly and all of you. Every little hair, smile, frown, glance and bit, but honey your old man likes his lovin', an unexpected kiss, a loving glance and to be petted too. He likes to think he is the one and only perfect guy in the world for you, not expecting to be upbraided for something wrong at every turn. I worship you darling, to me you are everything that is good and beautiful, everything that makes life worth while. The least little sign of displeasure, or word, on your part darling, hurts so deeply. I learned to harden myself to that hurt in time sweetheart, but it still hurts. I know I have done a lot of crazy things and hurt you a lot too, but there was a time darling that I thought you didn't want me around anymore. I'm not the best guy in the world, but you can make me think I am with only one word, and you can plunge me into the depths with a glance.

About my aims and ambitions Honey, I would really like to go into contract painting but that takes capital so it only remains for me to take a job. I'll never be satisfied working for anybody else but I



YVAN 237423 CENKAY

probably won't ever be able to do much about it.

We will be going off again very shortly and no additional leaves were given. I guess I was lucky to get the one I got. Well mommy the war can't last forever and every dark cloud has a silver lining. See I'm an optometrist. How are my musketeers? Had to knock off and go get supper, had spaghetti and what they call meat loaf. You should hear Mike holler about the spaghetti.

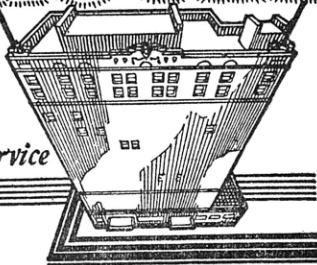
Chart a stencil for the Captain today so he could send a ~~copy~~ home. He lives in Somers Pt. Tell my Dad if you see him. Well Darling this place is getting terribly noisy. So until I can get enough ambition to write again I'll say

Yours 100%

Parker.

LA SALLE HOTEL

Sign of Distinctive Hotel Service



Nov. 19, 1943

Beaumont, Texas.

Hello Darling,

Here we are in Texas again, tomorrow we shall leave for Norfolk. It doesn't look as if I'll get home before we make another hop. Glenn Stark and I are staying at the above hotel. It's certainly nice to sleep in a bed again. I haven't seen Johnny as yet. He must be on the other side.

Home will certainly look good if I ever get there permanently. I'm saving an awful lot of love for you Honey. I'll try to make up all the time we are missing. I'm gonna wow you Darling. hope you like it. It doesn't look as if I'll be home for Christmas this year, but I know that you'll see that the kiddies have a nice Christmas. This Pen is running out of words, and though this is just a note, it's all I can think of to write. Writing is so inadequate, what's the use of writing the things that I can't do. That's what counts. Just remember I love you mommy and she won't last forever.
You are man
Parker.

Nov. 29, 1943

Norfolk Va,

Dearest Darlin,

We are back from Texas and are unloading this load at Norfolk, then we shall return to Texas again. All the crew wish that we could have that run all winter, but that is too much to hope for. Maybe after this next trip I can find a way to get a 72 hr. liberty. If we could only come into New York it would be very easy.

I received your letter telling me to save my money. You know the saying about a fool and his money. I think you have made enough sacrifices without having to do any more. That's something I never wanted you to do. You are such a Darling and I know you deserve a lot more than I've ever been able to give you. Sometimes I could pick myself in the pants for ever asking you to marry me. You haven't had much else except heartaches and they're all been my fault. I guess I'll always be more or less of a screwball, but that doesn't keep me from loving you more than anything in or out of the world.

You say you wanted to look up the cost of materials for a painter. I'll try and give you a list of some of the things that are necessary. At least 2-40' extension ladders

2 or 3, 10" or 12" extension planks, or scaffold equivalent. 4
window jacks. 1/2 doz ladder hooks, a good assortment of good
brushes of all kinds, at least 1/2 doz each. a small paint mfg
machine. something to haul it all around in. Compensation
insurance to cover any men that's working. Enough wage
capital to pay help until cash for work starts coming in etc.
So you can see honey that it just isn't a path of roses, not
a path even of one rose. A lot of this could be dispensed with
if all the jobs were small, but they don't pay much of a Profit.
Tell me what you think of all this now.

There is little else to say, except that I would like
to get home to see all of you and give you lots of lovin'. I'll
write you from Texas or where ever we go to pick up
the next allotment. So until the next round-up

Parker