

My Darling Melba, 20. 26 August 1918
Sunday Eve.

How is my sweetheart today? It will surely be nice when I will be able to come home for good. Under the Navy point system officers need 49 points to get out and I only have 43 1/2 points. If they ~~keep~~ the system in effect it would take 11 months before I ^{can} get out, but I think they will reduce the requirements before then. The two favorite topics of discussion on boardship are: 1. How many points you have and when we can get out of the service for good and 2. When the ship will return to the states for overhaul. On the latter guess range all the way from the last of October to before Christmas. I surely hope so and the sooner the better.

I had the watch this morning from 8-12 and this afternoon I received the last three letters of yours that were missing. So I took the letters out of the envelopes and clipped them together in order in book form and re-read them all. Oh, it's really wonderful to read your letters darling. You are such a wonderful wife I still don't see how

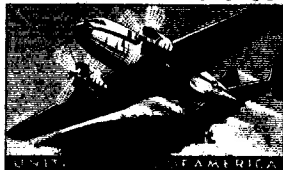


I was so lucky to get you for my wife.
In the letters I received today, you asked
what my reaction would be to getting an
apartment across from the Empress. I think
it would be very nice to have for when
we return to school as long as it was one
of the larger ones, but I don't see any
need for any hurry. In the first place
it might be some time before I finally
get released and then too it won't be so
good with you being there all by yourself
with the baby. You would have the
problem of getting someone to stay
with the baby when you go out to
shop or visit or do anything or else have
to take the baby with you. You also won't
have a car and might be rather isolated,
but of course there are lots of friends around
as the Stablers and Mrs. Brady.
To be truthful about it, darling, I would
rather see you with the Shervelds until
we have some idea as to when I will
be released. It looks now as though it
will be quite a few months anyway.

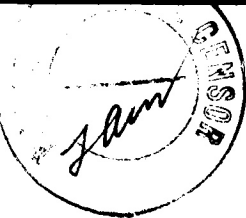


Then too it may be possible
to get a little house which
would probably be much
better and not cost much
more either. Those are my
opinions on the subject but
you do as you feel is best.
That's the most important
thing to me is to have
you happy and comfort-
able. I love you with all
my heart darling.
The End

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