My Birthday
May 26th —

Dearest, Darling Pudgie - My Wonderful Wife -

This evening - oh, what an evening - to everybody else it's Blue Monday - July 16th - but it's really May - 'cause my birthday package - from you - my beautiful, wonderful wife - was delivered Today - and, Pudgie, your hope was fulfilled - 'cause sitting on top of the package were four - oh, the most wonderful letters - Darling, this evening needs you - here by my side - to make it perfect - Pudgie, Darling, how I miss you. Ruth this evening - I can't write - I'm too elated - your package, your letters, your pictures, my wedding ring from you - all my dreams and thoughts - packing the box with you - dreaming of you as I enjoy it - the pretzels - the hard kind that are so good - marshmallows - it's been so long since I've had them - and I like them so very much - and those I've toasted are an epicurean's delight! (I sort of scribbled that word - made my own spelling!) And the stationery - Pudgie Darling, I love you - thank you very much for everything - 'cause I enjoyed it - oh, every bit - the food, stationery, even dreaming over the wrapping - seeing you pack it. It arrived in perfect condition - you packed it so well - Lizzie, you're wonderful - I'm so much in love with you -. And when I come home, I will thank you for all of them again - thanking you then the way I would thank you now if you were here - all my pen wants to write is, I love you -, over and over again - That is always there - my love just filling me - every inch - Darling, you're so wonderful -.

This morning I started out and was on the road all day - and it was pouring all it could pour all day long - but your Hubby didn't get wet! The 3/4 Ton is an open truck - but I was dressed in helmet liner - which kept my head dry, my raincoat - to keep my body dry - and my legs kept dry by a pair of big boots - I was well protected from the rain! And this evening when I came back, I was tired and grumpy - but as soon as I reached my bunk - the ride was forgotten, the tiredness disappeared - and my grumpy mood fled.

Darling - a grand package and four wonderful letters - the Army and everything around me disappeared. But first I had to make myself presentable to be with you - so I washed, combed my hair and got dressed - shorts, wedding ring and glasses! - crawled into my bunk, with your package in one corner (easy to reach), your picture in front of me - and your letters by my side. Darling, I read, ate and dreamed - it was so grand - and now writing to you (still munching) - over here the evening couldn't be better - but how I wish I were over there, with you.

There are two things that I want to answer right away - I don't want to wait till I reach them answering as we do - following the letter. How I wish I could tell you right away - as you'd know - and wouldn't have to wait till this letter arrived.

Pudgie, there are no pictures on the walls of my tent - none of the indecent wall pictures anywhere about. I'm my table is the most beautiful, most wonderful girl in the world - and in my wallet are eight more pictures of you. In an envelope in my stationery kit are all of the other pictures that I have of you - the one taken in Lancaster, and behind our home on George St - and there's one taken in front of your home - Charlotte has not given any more pictures to Hazel - but if she does - and he does what he did the last time - you'll find it in an envelope - I wouldn't keep it here. Darling, you're my wife - I'm the proudest, luckiest, happiest man in the world. You are the woman in my life - there are no others in the world. You are my pin-up girl - my dream girl - the only girl in the world for me. To have such pictures - Ruth, how could anybody pose for pictures such as they? They have lost all sense of decency, modesty and their self-respect. You are my wife - my own - and the only pictures I want are those of you -. Darling, I love you so very much.

And naming vehicles after a fiancée or wife seems to be a popular practice - but I disagree. There is nothing that is worthy of your name -

I would never name my vehicles.

But, Ruth - one thing I do want. If our first child is a girl - it will be named Ruth - only our children will be worthy of your name - and our first girl will be Ruth. Please agree with me, Pudgie - don't say no - and also agree that our first boy will be named Jerome -. What name would you choose? Have we made a choice: I would like George - not because it is Dad's name alone - but I like the name. Darling, we'll talk about that (with reason) later! But let me know what you would like -.

Last evening, I read in my New Testament the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. Mark - and it is a chapter that I have read many times. It is the story of the Lord's Supper - and His betrayal by Judas. It also tells of Peter - denying Him three times before the cock crowed Twice - events of the last week of our Lord's life. And this evening my reading will be of His trial before Pilate and His crucifixion. It is the story of His love for us - giving His life that we may be saved. Ruth, we will read our Bible every evening - discuss it together - learning how we can better our lives - living as He teaches.

Each evening, when I roll over, I count off the day - one day closer to the day when you will be there by my side - going to sleep in each other's arms. And, Pudgie, when it's chilly, my "Arms-strong Heater" will keep you warm - and we'll cuddle up together. This evening it's raining so very hard - and with our summer p.j's it'll be sorta chilly - let's cuddle - your cheek against mine - in each other's arms, close beside each other - I want to be there so very much - I'm waiting - patiently - for that Day - when all of these dreams will come True -.

I love you, Ruth - and I miss you so very much - I want so very much to be with you -

all My Love, Pudgie - Just For You - My Wife

Hubby Jerry