Mythymna
Thursday. July 5th

Dearest Pudgie —

This is just such a day that I've been waiting for to answer your grand Philly letter. It's about 9:00 - a rainy morning - and I'm stretched out here on my bunk in Kegel's Basha hut - and all morning to chat with you. I'm the only one here - no work can be done till the crews come back - not for dinner, but this evening - so This is the grandest time for our chat. There's a radio on the table beside my bunk - and it's the grandest background. The program is altogether musical - one selection following the other, with no pause for station identification or commercials - all music - very nice.

Darling, I've lived your week-end with you over and over again - you didn't forget a thing - it is such a grand letter, Pudgie - you're wonderful -. Writing in the station before you leave, then in Lancaster and in Betty's room. And on the way back, again you wrote at every stop -. Oh, Darling I'm so much in love with you -.

I'm so glad you had no trouble locating a seat - either coming or going - but Pudgie! After all our trips to Philly - and then getting on the wrong train? But you're still a seasoned traveller - because only a seasoned traveller could discover their mistake and locate the correct train! Pudgie, I want so much to be with you - to scrub your back - squeeze your middle - interrupt your words - and see that we get on the right train! It's the nicest thing in the world to do everything you can for the one you love - how I wish I were with you -. Doing things now - seeing new countries -, it's empty - it lacks the most important thing - it's so far from complete -. When you are by my side - everything changes - life becomes full - complete - and every second is grand -. Darling, I miss you so very much.

It's next to impossible to write on a moving train, isn't it? Yours goes flying off in all directions - and you never knew the ride to be so bumpy -

And the necklace arrived safely - I was so glad -. I was afraid it would tear the envelope and slip out -. (We'll deviate from the trip a minute - 'cause between paragraphs you told me about the day before - and you know how I answer your letters!) Were you able to have it restrung? Does the necklace "go" with anything? Perhaps with your black dress - Pudgie, you must save that dress 'till I come home - I like it so very much -. So many people don't wear black, but with a little white trimming - and the most beautiful girl inside(!) - it's beautiful!

Pudgie - I couldn't do anything else - when the news that we've been waiting for so long does arrive - I'll send - not a cablegram - but cablegrams - special delivery letters - and as soon as I reach a phone - no matter where - we'll be chatting just as soon as the operators clear the wires -. Darling - if our positions were reversed - I would want to hear the news as soon after you knew as I possibly could - so you shall hear as soon as possible. When I come home -: Pudgie, I'm so excited - just the thought sends thrills through me.

The coach you rode to Philly sounds just like the one I was on when I went back to Florida - a sort of club car. You didn't lose your equilibrium when you rode that way, though - did you? I'm so glad that on all our trips I was able to find a seat for you - and I hope that you never have to ride reservation on the Columbia lines that day - that was one day I didn't take care of you as I wanted to do - you had to stand. But from now on when we travel - there will always be seats - no reservations!

When you mentioned your beautiful Bible - I wanted one so very much - and now you've sent me one. And the cloth bound one is much better for this climate - leather wouldn't last -. Thanks you very much, Ruth - and each evening we will read it together -, 'cause you are always by my side.

Judging from your dress before surgery, it must be hot in Philly, too!

How did we ever miss the Hedgerow Theatre? It sounds like a very nice place - and you must take me there next time in Philly - 'cause I'm not only looking forward to the play - but most of all the intermission! The spot must be beautiful - and I want so very much to walk down that little path with you, across the bridge to the pond. It'll be so grand - strolling arm in arm -.

I'm jealous - and I'm so glad you didn't talk to the "soldier with the C.B.S. patch"! Some day soon, a civilian (who's just discarded his C.B.I. patch and knows) will tell you all about India, Burma and China - me!

So Penelope going to accept the position at Y.C.D.? I wish she would - 'cause then two of you would have such grand times together 'till your hubbies come home!

I never thought we like to receive many letters, I'm so glad you sent your whole week end in one letter - 'cause I could enjoy it with you that way. If it had been two or three letters, they would probably have arrived days apart and all out of order. (What's the matter with this paper?)

Swing Auditorium? I can see it now. I was in it practically every day for Military Training - and I spent lots of time studying its design. And the colors - it's quite unusual, isn't it? But I like it - it's almost like red Japanese, isn't it? (Ugly - I just licked my pen and it's worse than ever - I'll try another sheet -)

Darling, you're going to break your husband! Such exorbitant prices for hats - $1.59 and 88¢ - we'll be in the poor house! Are there hats that sell for those prices? They must be mighty small! Your husband will never get a hat for that price - Stetson's - $5.00 -. I know just what you're going to say! - They're summer hats - and there'll be shoes, coats, dresses - unmentionables - (namely, panties and bras) - stockings - Pudgie, I can hardly wait for those shopping trips - we're going to go together - and there'll be one store for me - but you may visit everyone - and I'll be right there!

Nothing about clothing reminded me of my Pudgie - makes sucker - and then a thought flashed into my mind - when you start knitting 'little things' - are you going to those pink - or blue? Darling, when I think of our family - with the most wonderful mother - I just know they will be like their mother - and they will be the most wonderful children in the world. As the years go by, our life will become full and complete - with our children - growing with them - teaching them - Pudgie, ours is going to be a wonderful home.

Will there be pictures of your week in August, too? Oh, Pudgie, I hope so - and be sure to describe completely the cabin - 'cause if the Woodpile can't be had - let's go there -, even if we could get rooms at the hotel - 'cause there would be far more than Two of us there - and everybody besides the Two of us is too many. Could we have it in winter, too? Would Pikey's uncle rent it to us then? I've seen lots of mountains, it's true, but the location of our honeymoon spot isn't considered for mountains, seashore, or desert - all that matters is that it must be a place where the Two of us can get away from everybody - all by ourselves - living as we want -. Tell me all about it Pudgie - would we have to take our provisions (I hope so) - is anybody else near (I hope not) is the cabin a place you'd like to go (most important) and will it probably be available for immediate occupancy (I hope so)

ask Pidgy to tell you everything about it that she can - and if there's no hotel nearby - the location might be even nicer! (As time goes by - married couples want people around them? Not us - we've been apart so long - so much lost time to make up - I want you - nobody else miss - and since after that month we'll be - in civilization again - I want that whole month alone with you - my wife - I love you so very much -.

Just one example of time difference - and I'll stop so there'll be no confusion - but it will give you the "ratio" -. When it's 9:00 P.M. here - it's 7:30 that morning at home -. So just add 13½ hours to your time - and you have ours -.

Darling - now I haven't the slightest worry about "rehabilitation" - your letter just chased every one away -. I'm so glad that you have said that you, too, know there will be no change - just like the passing of a week - between week-ends. There was only one change then - each week I loved you more - and that is the only change now -. My love grows each day - and we grow closer - and when I come home - oh, Pudgie - I can only dream - and let's dream together -.

Pudgie - you're the most wonderful wife - I miss you so very much -. Each day brings Our Day closer - and soon - it will be here - oh, Darling, I love you so very much -. Before we met again on the Train - I was always dreaming of you - and now the dreams are far more wonderful - because the girl of my dreams is now my wife - together we are one -. My life would never have been complete nor happy without you - for I would have dreamed of you always - loving you -, wanting you by my side. & now now while we're apart - your letters - your packages - Darling we can never be separated in our hearts - we are always together there - waiting patiently (the definition -) for Our Day -.

Your Hubby Is So Much In Love With You, Pudgie -

God Bless You, Darling

Hubby Jerry