

August 15-1944  
Corsica -

Hello Darling!

Boy oh Boy, what a day this has been - as you know by now we invaded Southern France today and believe me Baby, I had a front seat for the show, in fact we were the first ones to bomb the coast at the crack of dawn this morning. Remember that special mission we were training for? that was it - and it went off like clock work. I've been on the go since 3 A.M. this morning and I'm so damn tired I hardly know what to do. the mission this morning was pretty easy, but I flew another one this afternoon that was really rough and I'm really

thankful to the good Lord for taking care of me - he's done a swell job of it so far and I'm sure he will continue to do so.

Honey, I wish I could describe this invasion to you but I can't find words to do it - Boy I've never seen so many ships and planes in all my life - the sea was full of ships of all descriptions and the sky was covered with planes of every size and shape imaginable, you'd have to see it to appreciate it - when you think of all the planning and equipment it took to pull something like this - Well it's something to marvel at - and the timing was perfect too.

On the way back from the mission

this afternoon we listened to the news broadcast from New York about the invasion and it seemed funny to hear them talking about it, while we were actually over that country, and coming back from a mission - The towns and cities they mentioned are just as familiar to me as some towns back in the states - and you could just look out the window and see the whole thing right there before your eyes - Boy what a sight! you could see the battleships shelling the coast, planes bombing all around and firing everywhere. I'll never forget it - I took a bunch of pictures of it all but I don't know how they will turn out, it was sorta hazy.

Well, so much for that - I received two very sweet letters from you today.



and I was very happy to get them,  
I think our mail will come in a  
little better now, since they have  
this thing started.

God, I hope this mess is over  
with pretty soon I want to come home  
so bad I don't know what to do. I'm  
so tired of it all - after 40 missions  
it's beginning to tell on me, I don't  
know whether I can stand the 30  
more I'm supposed to fly, I sorta  
doubt it.

Well Darling, I'm pretty tired so  
I'll close for now and hit the sack  
in a little while - Be sweet my  
Darling and don't ever forget, for  
even a second, that I love you  
with all my heart -  
your loving hubby  
Norman

Lt. Norman B. Maerke 0759968  
340 B.G. 489 SQ  
A.P.O. 650 96 P.M. N.Y.N.Y.



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TEXAS.  
USA

Lt. Norman B. Maerke

End of this  
document

August 16 - 1944  
Consica -

Hello Darling:

How is my one and only feeling  
to day? Fine and dandy I hope.  
As for your little hubby he's pretty  
tired but otherwise all right, I  
had to get up at 3:45 again this  
morning and fly another mission,  
it went off O.K. Thank God.  
Boy, will I be happy when I get  
through with them, I'm getting to  
the point where I just hate to  
fly a mission, and when I think  
about having to fly 29 more I  
really get pissed off.

This afternoon I stayed in  
the sack and slept a little and

the rest of the time I was thinking about you. Gee! but I'd give anything to be able to come home to you now. I often wonder how much longer it will be - God, I hope it's not too long.

Very little mail came in to-day so I didn't get a letter from you, which made me very unhappy - I guess I'll have to read the ones I got yesterday again, Boy they were all right. - really sweet, that's the way I like them, Baby.

Well what did the people back in the states think about the invasion yesterday? It was quiet the thing here, naturally it would be - as being a part of it.

I hope this will cause the war to end much sooner, it seems to be a pretty good plan. and so far they haven't met much resistance. We flew over the lines this morning and you couldn't see any fighting going on like you could over the front lines in Italy - I hope they march right on through to Berlin.

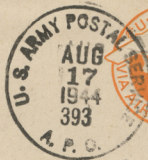
Well my Darling, that's about all for to-day - Be sweet just for your little hubby and say don't forget that I Love you.

Here's a kiss for  
you Baby

your loving husband  
Norman -

ah! that was good

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August. 17  
Corsica

Hello Hawling:

Well Baby, I had an easy day for a change, I just lay around and took life easy - we were supposed to fly a mission but it was called off at the last minute, and it didn't make me mad a bit, cause it was sorta "hot".

I didn't get any mail again to day, Gee! I wish it would start coming in pretty soon, I'm sure got a bunch of it somewhere, and I need it bad - (mail too. Ha. Ha)

By the way, I've been helping one of the fellows here learn a little german, he wants to learn it and has some books and a dictionary in

german - so we've been racking our  
brains on it. It's helped me out  
quite a bit too, a lot of it comes  
back to me when I see the words  
and their meaning - I thought  
about trying to teach you a little  
german and I had to laugh  
whenever I thought about you  
counting in german - Oh! my  
aching back, - Haha - you did  
O.K. the Baby -

Say Honey, kinda keep an  
eye on the PORT ARTHUR NEWS - I  
think the Public Relations Office is  
going to send in a story on every  
man that took part in the  
invasion - If they do, save a  
clipping for me, and send me  
one too. Will you Baby? Good!

knew you would.

Well Darling I'm out of some-  
thing to say again, it's hard as  
hell to write every day when you  
don't get any letters - of course  
I could go and tell you how  
much I'd like to be home with  
you, so we could settle down and  
build a home - and how much  
I'd like to see this mess end  
etc. - but I've said that so often  
till I guess you get tired of reading  
it - But here's something I hope  
you won't get tired of reading. I  
love you so very much Darling,  
don't ever forget that - Bye now  
your loving husband  
Norman

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August. 18. 1944  
Cansica -

Hi Chubby:

Well Baby, I can't gripe about not getting any mail to day. I recieved 11 letters, 9 sweet ones from you and two from mother. And boy was I glad to get them, there are still a few missing but I imagine they will show up later.

I see you are still worried about my drinking, Well as Sue told you before you have no need to worry I won't get the habit, of course I drink a beer once in a while, in fact we are rationed to three bottles a week and sometimes I don't even get my three bottles. And about getting saturated in



Capri. Of course I did, a fellow has  
to do some thing to release his  
nervous tension or just blow up -  
you have no idea how much of a  
strain it is on a man to fly these  
damn missions, especially now, the  
more you get in the shakin you  
get and what I've seen happen the  
last few missions didn't ~~help~~ help my  
nerves a damn bit. I'm sorry you  
felt so hurt about me dancing just  
a little up there that night, but I  
think you are making a bigger issue  
of it than it really is - I've told  
you I'm sorry that I did dance and  
it won't happen again (drunk or sober).

And you have no reason whatsoever  
to doubt that I love you as much as  
you thought I did - I love you with  
all my heart and soul Darling and I've  
told you that time and time again

and it hurts me deeply to think that  
you might doubt that - I promised  
to be true to you and I have been  
and always will be - I think you  
are thinking too much about those  
little things and letting your imagination  
run away with you, now cut it  
out, will you Honey? I've got enough  
worries -

you wanted to know where Capri  
is - well it's about 20 miles off the  
coast of Italy, just south of Naples,  
and a nice little spot it is too, as  
you probably know by now, I  
wish you could see it.

Boy those suppers you have  
been having really do make my  
mouth water. I could really go for some  
of that good Veal Roast with au gratin  
and potatoes now. I'll never forget  
the one you fixed in Columbia, it

was the best I've ever eaten. and that fried chicken would also hit the spot - Bay, when I get home you will really have to stuff me with that good food for a while. (something else too, Ha)

Bay, that snap-shot you sent me is really a dilly - Bay ah Bay, what a chest. say honey how did it get that big? (I wonder. Ha ha) Speaking of pictures, I spent the day to-day making a nice little frame for one of your pictures (a small one you had made at the same time you had the large one made for me, remember?) and it turned out good - I took two .50 cal machine gun bullets and polished them up real bright for a stand and made the frame out of plexiglass. I'll bring it home when I come.

Speaking of Martin being a lead Bombardier - I don't know when I'll start leading, you see we already

have eight lead crews and they alternate  
on these missions, it may be quiet  
a while before I start leading and  
there's a possibility that I won't lead  
at all, which wouldn't make me  
mad a bit, but I think I'll still  
get my first lieutenancy pretty soon.

So I'll seem to be getting sillier  
by the day, eh? Maybe you are just  
settling down, I hope so. And  
Bab, I'll enjoy you hanging on my  
coat tails when I get back, after all  
it's only fair. I'll be hanging on  
your tail just a bit too. Ah! my  
aching back - Ha Ha -

By the way, Honey you told me  
about getting the government check  
the 5<sup>th</sup> of August but you never did  
tell me if you got one in July.  
you see your allotment started.

June 1 and you should have gotten  
your first check at least by the 15th  
of July - now let me know whether  
or not you got it, will you Honey?

And I see you are still inclined  
to worry about me, please don't, Honey  
you are only hurting yourself. Why  
even most guys that are "missing in  
action" have bailed out over enemy  
territory and have escaped or are  
prisoners of war, I know of a bunch of  
cases like that personally, so please  
don't worry - I know it's easy for  
me to tell you that, I guess it's  
only natural to worry a little, but  
don't over do it.

By the way, they had a wedding  
here to day, one of the guys in the  
squadron married a nurse, I didn't  
go to the ceremony but I imagine

it was pretty nice. Boy I'll never  
forget the day you and I were  
married, will you Honey? That  
was The day - yes indeed.

Well Darling I guess Jim said  
about enough for to day - I'll tell  
you again tho that I love you  
with all my heart and soul  
Darling and am just living for  
the day when I can come back  
home to you, my darling little  
wife - Be sweet my one and  
only, just for me - Bye now

your little <sup>Honey</sup>  
Norman

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August - 19 - 1940  
Corsica

Hello Honey:

Yes! Baby I hit the jackpot again as far as the mail goes, I recieved 11 letters again - seven of them were from you and I was so happy to get them.

Boy I have really had a busy day to day I've been on the go since 4 A.M. this morning - I flew two missions to day - one was rough and one was not so rough - Boy, eight hours of combat flying in one day really tires a fellow out, I'm ready for the sack as soon as I finish writing you and mother a letter.

By the way Honey I finally found out about that Purple Heart - the orders

came out to-day and I was on it  
let's hope I don't get any clusters to  
it now - I got the medal pretty  
easy.

Well Darling, the war seems to be  
going pretty well now but I believe  
it will be quiet a while yet before  
it's over - Gee! I wish I could quit  
at 50 missions, just think honey, I'd  
only have to fly seven more - But  
no, they want a fellow to fly 70 now  
and all the boys are pretty well pissed  
off at the whole deal, especially me  
I think 50 missions is more than  
enough, in fact I don't believe I  
can fly 70. These missions are getting  
rougher all the time and I'd be very  
happy if I didn't have to fly another  
one.

We have a "hot" target for to-morrow

and I hope the good Lord watches  
over me as he has in the past, Boy  
he's really done a good job of it so  
far - I've had some pretty close ones

Well Baby, I'm going to cut this  
short so I can hit the sack, I'm  
dog tired - Gee! but I'd give anything  
to see you now Darling, I miss you  
so terribly much and can hardly  
wait to get back to you, that's all I  
think and dream about. Good night,  
my Darling and don't ever forget that  
I love you with all my heart, now  
and always.

your loving husband  
Norman

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August. 20. 1944  
Consica.

Hello my Darling:

How's my Baby feeling this beautiful Sunday afternoon? Fine and dandy I hope - as for me I'm doing O.K. too - I flew #44 early this morning and made out O.K. thank God. This afternoon I went to church and then spent the rest of the day in the "sack" boy I needed the rest, but bad. We haven't had a bit of rest since the invasion started, but I think we have a day off to-morrow, at least I hope so.

Well Darling it looks like

instead of being a lead Bombardier  
I'm going to be a lead Navigator.  
you see they have a shortage of  
navigators in our Squadron and  
the Squadron navigation officer came  
by and told me to day that he  
had selected me to be a navigator.  
I'll have one practice mission to  
sorta brush up on, and then I'll  
start navigating - Gee! I hope I  
can do O.K. I'd hate to get lost  
over enemy territory, it wouldn't  
be so funny, would it? - I think I'll  
be able to do it O.K. I've been  
over France so often now that I  
know the country pretty well.

I didn't get any mail to day  
but I can't complain, cause I've

received 22 letters in the past  
two days, not bad eh? Boy I was  
glad to get all of those. I'm pretty  
well caught up on the back  
letters now.

I picked up the orders on my  
Purple Heart to day but I didn't get  
the medal - I think I'll get it on  
the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month, the Group  
will celebrate its 2nd anniversary then,  
and they will have a bunch of big  
shots down here that are going to  
hand out a bunch of Air medals etc  
supposed to be a big occasion.

Well Darling, I'm out of news  
for now so I'll say - Bye now  
and don't forget that I love you  
truly, Dear - your loving husband,  
Norman



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August - 21 -  
Consica.

Hi Honey:

Boy I recieved 7 more letters from you to. day and I was really happy to get them, I think that pretty well catches up on my back mail. I'll have to check up and see, I've got all your letters filed in order.

I'm glad you finally got the package I sent you from Naples, now I wonder how long it will take you to get the one I sent you from Capri?

Well I finally found out that you got the first allotment check O. K. the letter showed up to. day, it had been on the road almost a month and a half - you can see

how good the mail service is here.

I presume you are putting that money in the bank, am I right Honey? Good - we've got to save all we can now, you know.

Honey, how does my mail come to you? Do you get it regularly or in bunches, and is any of it censored, other than my censorship?

We didn't have to fly a combat mission to-day but I flew down to Sardinia on a practice navigation mission and beginning to-morrow I'll fly as navigator instead of bombardier, I'd much rather be the bombardier, but I had no choice in the matter.

Say, those pictures of Kenny

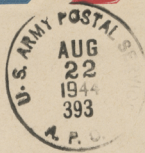
and the Baby are O.K. - Gee! I'd kinda like to see Kenny now he was a cute little rascal wasn't he?

Well Baby, the war is looking better every day, but I think it will be quiet a while yet before it's all over with. Say I can hardly wait for it to end - about all I ever think about is coming home to you. God I hope and pray it won't be too long, I'm so anxious to see you.

Baby that's about all for now - be a sweet little girl and don't forget that I love you with all my heart.

your loving hubby  
Norman

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Lt. N. B. Maerke -

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August - 23 - 1944  
Consica -

Hells Honey:

Hell's my one and only feeling  
to-day? Fine and dandy I hope -  
As for me I'm still getting along  
swell except for a slight case of  
the G.I's

Boy I haven't done a thing  
all day yesterday and so far to-day  
except lay around - Damn that  
gets monotonous as hell, I'd much  
rather be doing something.

By the way, Darling, I didn't  
write you a letter yesterday  
well, because there just wasn't  
any thing to write, I hope you  
won't mind too much will you

honey?

Last nite I went over and watched Kairi, our radio operator, print some pictures, he printed the one he took of us the day we left Columbia, remember? and gave it to me - I'm sending it on to you. I hope you like it. See it doesn't seem possible that it's almost four months since I left you, and Columbia. Does it?

Boy I've really been around in that short period of time.

By the way, Baby, I didn't get any mail yesterday or to-day, but then I didn't expect it too much cause I got so much a couple of

days ago.

Baby, we have to fly a mission in a little while so I had better get ready, I'll finish this when I get back - Bye now, I love you.

Back again, Honey but I didn't fly the mission, we had a little engine trouble just before we took off and we couldn't go, and I'm not a bit mad, cause we had a very hot target - I was flying as navigator in the lead ship.

See! Darling every time I look at this picture of us I miss you all the more, Boy Honey, you really look good to me and I'd give anything to be able to see you now, Boy I would really put in some tall loving would you like that Darling? I'll bet you



would - well, we will make up  
for lost time when I get back -  
how about that, eh Honey?

The war seems to be going O.K.  
Yee! I'd like to see the germans  
fold up all of a sudden, that  
would really make me happy, I'd  
like very much to be home  
for Christmas but I suppose  
that's asking a little too much

Well Darling, that's about all  
for now, be sweet, Honey, just  
for me, and remember I love you  
with all my heart, now  
and always.

your loving husband  
Norman -

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August . 24 - 1944  
Corsica

Hello Darling:

Well Baby, you can chalk up #45 for me I flew it this afternoon and made out O.K. thank God.

Boy, I wish we could still quit at 50 like they used to do, just think I'd only have to fly 5 more - It's just my luck for them to raise it to 70 before I got here - ah well, if the war keeps going as well as it is now it may be over before I reach 70 - That was real good news we got to-day about Rumania, Hungary + Bulgaria - wouldn't it be nice now if Germany would fold up? Boy there would be no one any

happier than I.

Well, to-morrow is a big day for us here, we are going to celebrate the second anniversary of this group. We'll have a parade + Review I imagine and they will hand out a bunch of medals - I have to be there, so I imagine someone will pin the Purple Heart on me.

I didn't get any mail from you again to-day and I missed it awfully lot, Gee! I hope I get some pretty soon (mail I mean) a bit of the other wouldn't be bad either, if you were only available.

Last night I had an radio man develop the pictures I took of the invasion but they didn't turn

out so hot cause it was real cloudy and hazy.

To-nite I think I'll take in a movie, there's nothing else to do. I wish you were going to be there with me Baby, that would really be something, eh?

Well Darling that's about it, I'm out of same thing to say again except how very much I love you and long to be near you! I'm hoping and praying it won't be too long before I see your lovely face again.

Your loving Hubby  
Norman

(OVER)

Well Baby, I had already finished  
this letter and sealed it, but we  
just had a meeting in the mess  
hall and some more of us have  
been promoted - yes Baby, I  
finally got my First Lieutenancy  
and I feel mighty proud of  
the whole thing, that silver bar  
will look pretty good won't it  
Honey. That's all Darling Bye  
again - I love you.

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August. 25-  
Corsica

Hi Honey:

Well Baby, to day is four months since I've seen that lovely face of yours. Gee! it seems like ages to me. I hope it's not that long before I see it again. We didn't get any mail again to day, Boy I wish the mail man would get on the ball I miss those sweet letters of yours an awful lot.

To day has been a pretty big day for the group, it's its second anniversary you know. Early this afternoon we had the ceremony presenting the awards to the fellows-

and it was pretty nice. General Knapp was here to pin all the medals on us - you've seen this done in the movies quiet a bit I'm sure, it was the same here, the General would pin the medal on you and then speak to you a little and shake your hand etc - they also had a couple of Colonels that shook our hand and wished us luck. Boy Honey, that Purple Heart is really a beautiful medal.

This afternoon they had a ball game here too but I didn't go. To-nite they have a U.S.O. show and also a dance - I think I'll go to the show, but the dance doesn't appeal to me.

Boy things seem to be happening pretty fast to me - yesterday I got my 1st which made me very happy, to say the least and to-day I was awarded the medal, that was quiet a thing itself - I don't know when we will get the Air medal, it may take quiet a while, keep an eye on the papers Honey, Public Relations may send in a story on my promotion etc.

Well, Darling that's about all for now, be sweet just for me Honey and don't ever forget that I love you with all my heart  
your loving husband  
Norman -

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August - 26 - 1944

Corsica -

Hello Honey:

Boy Honey, this has really been a dull day, we didn't fly and so I didn't have a damn thing to do all day - I just wandered around the area most of the time and this afternoon I went swimming for a while - Gee! this laying around is about to get me down - If I only had some kind of a hobby or some thing to keep me busy it would help out a lot.

And to make things worse we didn't get any mail again to-day - oh, we got a little, mostly V-mail, but I didn't get one and it pisses me off plenty, I wish Chuck Sam would get this mail service on the ball, cause it means an awful lot to us fellows over here to hear from home.

I went to that U.S.O. show last nite and it was pretty good - I didnt go to the dance at the officers club but George told me it was really a mess, I believe every body there got drunk cause they raised plenty of noise when they got back here.

I'm pretty sure I'll fly a mission to. morrow, I'm hoping its not a rough one. Well blawling I hate to be so brief but theres nothing else to write except that I Love you with all my heart honey dont ever forget that -

your loving husband  
Norman

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August - 27-1944  
Corsica -

Hi Honey:

Well Baby, I recieved four letters from you to-day and was very glad to hear from you again, it's been quiet a while since I recieved any mail at all - I also recieved a letter from Mother.

By the way Honey, you can mark up another one for me, I flew #46 to-day and made out O.K. Thank God. I'll be glad when I get this mess over with, I'm so damn tired of it all, I don't know what to do - I've really got a bad case of the "Red Ass".

Say Honey, all the letters I recieved to-day were written after the invasion of Southern France and you never even mentioned the subject, I thought that you, knowing I was that close to France, might wonder a little if I was in it and ask a few questions, in fact I started to send you a cable gram the

following day to tell you I was O.K., but  
evidently this invasion didn't make much of  
an impression on the people back home.  
Pardon me if I sound rude, but me being in  
the middle of this whole mess, I think it's  
pretty damn important, especially after having  
three more very good friends of mine missing  
in action and seeing many more I didn't  
know personally, go down in flames.

Now I don't mean you by this, but the boys  
and myself are pretty well pissed off at the  
way the people back in the states are  
taking the war and oh! what we wouldn't  
give to get our hands on some of those bastards  
that are striking in defense plants, that's about  
the lowest thing I can think of, I could  
rage on and on I guess but I'd better quit,  
forgive me for blowing my top, Darling,  
I guess I'm getting kinda shot.

Let's talk about something a little more  
pleasant - So Raymond Suttle is getting married  
Well good, I'm glad to hear it, he's a swell  
kid but he just hasn't been around women

much and his sorta backward, but a few months of married life ought to make a new man out of him, eh Honey? Boy, what I wouldn't give to be peeking thru a key hole at them the first nite - Ha Ha - Ain't I Awful Honey? Say, remember our first nite Darling? I'll never forget it or any of the best for that matter, In fact I think about ~~you~~ you, and all the happy days and nights we spent together, constantly and am just living for the day when I can come back to you Darling, that's what I'm fighting for Honey, you and the home we intend to make for ourselves and for our kids, (I hope) and the sooner I finish up the happier I'll be, I'm getting sick and tired of all this death and destruction, I hate it.

So Herman is home on leave, Boy he's lucky to have his over with but I wouldn't care for those B-29s. they

and a swell ship but once I get  
my little butt back to the states  
they will play hell getting me back  
into combat.

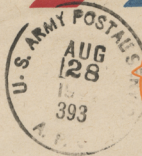
And L. E. is going with the  
warren? Say how old is he anyway?  
I thought he was just a kid, maybe  
im thinking about someone else, I  
unno.

So you might stay in Orange  
during the winter? Well, tell me  
when you want me to start sending  
your letters to orange and I will.

Darling I guess that's about all  
for now, im going to church in a  
few minutes so Bye now and  
dont ever forget that I love you  
with all my heart and soul

Darling - your loving hubby  
Norman-

Lt. Norman B. Maerke 0759968  
340 B.G. 4895Q  
A.P.O. 650 40 P.M. N.Y.N.Y.



Mrs Norman B. Maerke  
1825-4<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Port Arthur

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Lt. N. B. Maerke -

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August 28 - 1944  
Corsica.

Kello Darling:

How's my one and only feeling this beautiful Monday afternoon? Fine and dandy I hope - as for your little hubby he's doing O. K. too, he was supposed to fly a mission early this morning but it was called off at the last minute, so he took life easy all day - lay around in the sack and went swimming this afternoon, Boy the water was nice Honey, I wish you could have been there to enjoy it with me, of course not at the same spot, cause there were hundreds of guys swimming and sunning, in the row, and I don't think you'd like the sight's - or would you? Ha Ha -

Another day without any mail, ah well, I can't complain too much I recieved 5 letters yesterday.

By the way Honey do you remember the night George got married and we all went to the



Elks Club to celebrate? Will do you remember St  
Jack Norman that was there with this preachers  
daughter Le Venn? She was supposed to be  
crazy about him and ~~we~~ were going to get married  
but didn't have enough time - Well, she  
married some other guy now, and I don't  
think Jack knows about it yet, he's in Cairo  
on a rest leave - George got the news from  
home to day and he told me about it - Bay  
oh Bay, these women, I can't figure them out.

Well so much for the gossip, I don't have  
any other news except that I think we  
will be moving pretty soon, where to? I  
don't know, it will be one of two places - one  
will be swell the other not worth a damn, I  
hope we get the good one.

Well Baby I guess that's about all for  
now, be a sweet little Baby, just for me  
and don't ever forget that I love you  
with all my heart.

Your lonely loving husband  
Norman -



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August - 29 -  
Consica -

Hello Darling:

I just recieved two very sweet letters from you, and I'm afraid I owe you an apology for "blowing my top" in the letter to you yesterday - you see the letter I recieved to-day was written the day after the invasion and you did mention it and I'm sure you were worried about me, I guess I was pretty well on edge yesterday and when I recieved four letters from you and in none of them you even mentioned the invasion I got pretty well pissed off to say the least - this damn mail service really screws things up sometimes. Forgive me, will you honey? Good I knew you would, you are such a swell person Darling, I don't know what I'd do without you - Gee! but I'd give anything to be able to see you now Honey, I could just love you to pieces, would you mind?

I didn't fly again today, altho, we were supposed to, in fact we had to get up at 4 A.M. this morning and again at the last minute they called it off. That's happened the last three mornings, I can't figure it out.

Well, standing it looks like you are going to be in Orange quite a bit so I may as well start sending your letters there. By the way, honey, don't let any of these boarding house Casanovas get fresh with you. I'd hate to have to push someone's face in when I get home.

Baby, I hate to be so brief but I don't have any more news except that I love and miss you an awful lot honey, and can hardly wait to get home to you, so stay as sweet as you are, just for me - Bye now

your loving hubby,  
Norman -

Lt. Norman B. Maerke 0759968  
340 B.G. 489 SQ  
P.O., 650 40 P.M. N.Y.N.Y.



Mrs Norman B. Mae  
201 - Orange A  
ORANGE,  
TEXAS

Lt. N.B. Maerke -

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August 30  
Corsica.

Bello Darling:

See! Baby, I recieved two more very sweet letters from you to-day and I was so very glad to get them. I recieved the letter you wrote on the day of the invasion, and I feel more like a heel than ever, for "blowing my top" the other day, I should have known you would realize I was in on it and should have waited till I was sure I had gotten all the letters before I said any thing, but I was pissed off at the world in general that day - am I forgiven, Honey?

Yes, it was the invasion I meant when I said I had something I would like to tell you, but couldn't, you see we had a good idea it was coming off, and were told officially the day before it happened - that's what we were practicing for on those early morning missions, so we could form our formation in the dark and be over the target at the

"crack of dawn," and we were.

She! Baby I'm glad to hear that you and Mom got that little house from Aunt Eunice, I thought you might stay in the boarding house with all those ship-yard workers and I wouldn't have liked that a bit.

Say Honey, I don't know exactly where you want me to send your letters, the other day you said to send them all to Orange and to-day you said to keep sending them here and the letter was mailed in P.A. - so being you will be in Orange mostly I'll send them all there till you tell me definitely where to send them.

So Mom rented the back room to a couple just about like us (only she's pregnant) well that's nice.

yes Baby, I'd like very much for you to have me all to yourself when ever I get home, I still don't like the idea of staying at either one of our parents homes, I'd like for you and I to be off to ourselves, especially at night, if you get what I mean, well



have lots to do and I don't like company  
I'm still modest you know, oh well, well  
work that out when I get home we're  
still got a long time to wait.

We've been at a stand still here lately  
we haven't flown a mission in quiet a  
while, I can't figure it out.

I spent most of the afternoon in  
Bastia getting a few rations and a hair cut  
I had to hitchhike the 30 miles north to  
Bastia.

Well my one and only that's about  
all for now. be sweet my Darling and  
don't forget for a moment that I love  
you with all my heart.

your loving hubby  
Norman

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Mrs Norman B. Maenke

201- Orange Ave  
Orange,

TEXAS

Lt. N. B. Maenke -

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August 31 -  
Corsica -

Hello Honey:

How is my honey feeling this beautiful Thursday afternoon, Fit as a fiddle, I hope. As for me I'm still doing O.K. - I didn't fly again to-day, in fact I'm getting quiet a rest and I don't mind it a bit.

This morning I hitch hiked up the road about 20 mi looking for Capt. Ted Saba (know him?) he's stationed here on the island - he was at this place I went to, but he has been transferred farther down the island and I doubt whether I'll be able to see him, it's quite a way from here and on the other side of the island.

By the way I got paid a while ago and I'm sending you another \$100. to salt away for us, say how are we doing now, we should have almost a thousand dollars saved up by the time you get this, eh baby? I could send a few dollars more but I

like to keep a little on hand, after this month I may be able to send you a little more, cause you see with my promotion I get about a \$40. a month raise, that puts me to making about \$390. a month not bad, eh Baby? Say, I'd like to make that much all the time, wouldn't that be swell? yes indeed! -

The mail hasnt come in yet today but I hope I get a letter from you, they always make me feel so good.

Well Baby, I want to get to the Post office and get that money order and send this letter off so I guess I'll close for now

Be a good little girl Honey and don't ever forget that I Love you with all my heart now and always.

your loving husband  
Norman-

H. Norman B. Maerke 0759968  
340<sup>th</sup> Bomb. Group 489 SQ  
A.P.O. 650 c/o P.M. N.Y.N.Y.



Mrs Norman B. Maerke  
201- Orange Ave  
Orange,  
TEXAS

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H. N. B. Maerke -

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AUG 31 1944

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