[Envelope:]
Captain A.S. Aiken, O – 406500
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A.P.O. 980
c/o Postmaster
Seattle, Wash.

[Transcription begins]

Greenbelt, Md
Feb. 13, 1943

Well Baby –

The day felt just like I did so it rained like hell.

I hope you are having a terrible time in Dayton & are wishing to heaven you had me there after all. Or else that you've picked up some blonde and are feeling very cheap at having been promiscuous so soon after having left the arms, so to speak, of your loving wife.

I wrote the bank a letter and also Mrs. Matthews so you see, I can be efficient. My hair looked pretty good today & it made me so mad I kept sticking out my tongue at the mirror all day. If I didn't think you love me before, I'm more certain now. Because if you had looked as bad as I all week, I would have sent you to Dayton a couple of days early. I keep seeing that sick looking smile you gave me at the last. But the kiss wasn't so bad. Maybe being able to sleep with you helps because there were times when you went back to Selfridge that I felt worse.

My feet weren't cold last night tho'—so maybe it was a gag—or I was nervous or something. If you see John find out how the pictures turned out & say Goodbye for me. I thought sure we'd see him again. I washed my hair tonight—but my heavens—I'm spoiled already because I felt like having you dry it for me.

You're awfully sweet and I've made a firm resolution to tell you that oftener and also how much I love you when I see you again. I can't understand why you turn me into a Mortimer Snerd. Because my word! I love you an awful lot.

I'm also amazed when I think back at how quickly you changed ideas. Two years ago I was plenty old enough to get married to you & start having responsibilities (big <u>&</u> little) and now that I <u>am</u> in my twenties I'm too damn young to get on a train by myself. Gad man! I aged ten years in the time between Dec. 7, 1941 and Jan. 1, 1942 not to speak of this last year.

But since you're the low-type I might have known you'd start harping on your superior qualities as soon as you had me tied down. Well another day, or night rather. It's 20 minutes to 12 and, of course, I should be in bed—but I was thinking of you, and writing

to you is a little like talking to you. I'm going in town tomorrow to see if the gov. needs me as badly as you do. So far I've had a couple more offers (?) of jobs, but I may be disappointed in expecting a snap.

You know if I did join the WAACs (I kno'—we're all thru talking about that) but if I did join they might let me come up & be your secretary if you get the 18th. You wouldn't mind my not taking shorthand would you? Anyway I think it's a good idea.

Guess I'm going to stay all night with Becky tomorrow at Strong Hall—she's wanted me to come quite a few times & I've never been able to make it—but it ought to be quite a bit of fun. Of course, I'd rather sleep with you—but she seems more anxious to have me around than you.

How I'm ever going to wake up at seven in the morning I do not know. Got all my clothes pressed & hung up again. I swear I don't feel as if I've ever been gone anywhere. I'll finish this when I hear from you—right now I'm so sleepy—as usual. But I'm not too sleepy to love you so very much. You shouldn't have gone away.

Hello Baby –

Well in order to curb your suspense—I did land a job with Air Defense Command in the Fighter Section so I'm hoping I'll like it and I really will be able to keep my eye on you. Yestryday [sic] was really an experience—I had four offers of jobs and one Colonel was really sore because I wouldn't start learning to make maps. Not that I wouldn't like to have—but that would be no kind of a job to take for a few months.

Stayed all night with Becky at the dorm & we went over to see Elaine Kennedy who was very sorry to have missed you. She's leaving for home tomorrow for 10 days & hopes that Helen will come back with her. I hope so too.

Was quite surprised to get a note from Joan Cutting today. She says the last she heard from Hank—he was still in England. She wanted to know how you were and did you ever mention Ward Harker. Hank certainly missed a lot of the baby—he left when it was 1 month & now Bruce is walking. It really is a shame.

I'm glad too that you are leaving as soon as possible. It would be dreadful knowing you were still in the country and I couldn't see you. I won't start work until next Monday. Had to take my papers out to Gravelly Point to Personnel Office where I recieved [sic] a rather dubious welcome. Depending I guess on those who were & weren't really my friends. However I rather enjoyed seeing them again and the supervisor offered me a job.

I love you an awful lot it's just ridiculous what a change there is [sic] my enjoyment of living when you aren't around. People shouldn't mean that much to one another—but I'm terribly glad we do.

Pat. [Transcription ends]