[Transcription begins]

#77 Tuesday night 1-16-45

Dear Douglas - Yesterday brought us #144 (1-7-45) and the enclosed pictures. We are so pleased to have them, especially the most recent ones as they show us that should we meet you on the street we would immediately recognize you, so little have you changed in all this long time! Just now, the world outside is white with a beautiful snowstorm (Dad has finished shoveling and is deep in a new book "Captain From Castile" which promises to be very interesting) and it is difficult to visualize you sailing along with shirt sleeves rolled and no hat! It does seem as tho you must have absorbed enough sun & heat to last you the rest of your life! Speaking of pictures--how about the one you had taken just before Christmas at the Chinese photographer's? We liked the 3 snaps of you and the quart of milk (do you recall a picture taken of you and Bob Stang blacked up for the 4th of July parade I think either he or you were guzzling a bottle of milk then!) Can you tell us why Roy Wergers (?) is in the hospital? I am enclosing a clipping about a Leo Miller--I started for a moment for I thought perhaps it could be your friend home on leave! The football game must have been a treat--I am so glad that Dad and I took in so many while you were in the band for it will be a long time before college games have the same glamour and color. Dad no doubt has written you that he is on five committees and one board & will doubtless be out many evenings. Marilyn and I have much sewing ahead of us, so will spend many an hour working together and listening to the radio. We were interested to hear about the show girls and sometime soon I will send a note Boston-way to see if they would like to come to Providence. Your new Pharmacist's Mate must seem like a breath from home or does Woonsocket suggest halitosis? (not meaning to be unkind, just humorous).

We were interested that you could name some of the places you have visited. Richard Whipple has a classmate who was on a destroyer which traveled in some of the same convoys as the Elden. He did not know you but knew your ship.

Last night the Martha Waterman Club met at the Emerson's home (Mrs. Waterman has been ill so we cannot meet at her home). The shipyard is right across the street from there, such a shame to have such a lovely location spoiled. Kirke is home with his wife and baby girl & I saw a lovely picture of Evelyn & her husband and baby girl. Mrs. Jones and I called on Mrs. Waterman last week & she is most anxious that should you ever go to Sydney, Australia, that you call on the consul Eli Palmer, her son, and let him know that your mother is one of his mother's "girls!" I pass the message on to you.

Have you heard of the Radar taxi company which picks up almost anything at night?

Daryl kisses her Daddy's picture "Goodnight" & also insists on doing the same to Uncle "[indecipherable]'s." She leads poor Chip on a hectic life & Marilyn says she hates to think of the expression that will come over his face when the newcomer arrives in the spring!

Dad & I were at church Sunday morning. It seems good to see Clara's jolly face once

again in the choir loft! She looks fine, likes it a lot and the uniform is most becoming. Bob Greene is still around & John Reuzi was also there.

We surely enjoyed the snapshots, send them whenever you can!

We are all well, keeping warm, and eating plenty--our best love to you.

Mother [Transcription ends]