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, "Captains from Captia," which promises to be very interesting) and it is difficult to visualize you sailing along with shirt-sleeves rolled and all that! I do hope so this 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 photographers? We liked the 3 snaps of you and the quart of milk (do you recall a picture taken of you and Dad stained blackened up for the 4th of July parade, I think either he or you were gorging on a bottle of milk then?) Can you tell us why Roy Wooden (?) 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 town, for it will be a long time before college games have the same glamorous color.

Dad no doubt has written you that he is on five committees and one board and will doubtless be out many evenings. Mainly he and I have much storing 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 to Boston way to see if they would like to come to Providence. Your new pharmacist mate must seem like a breath from home or does woonsocket suggest baldorzos? (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 Eversmore Lodge (Mrs. Waterman has been ill so we cannot meet at her home). The lodgeyard is right across the street from there, such a chance to have such a lovely location spoiled. It's home with his wife and baby girl & 9. Sue a lovely picture of Evelyn & her husband and baby girl. Mrs. Jones and 9 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 "Guarp". She likes poor Cliff a hectic life & Manila says she hates to think of the oppression that will come on his face when the newcomers arrive in the spring.

Dad & 9 were at Church Sunday morning. It seemed good to see Clara's jolly face once again at the choir loft. She looks fine, likes it a lot and the uniform is most becoming. But Greene is still around & John Benzi 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.