August 9, 1943

Dear Maurice:

I received 5 letters from you today. They were dated – 2 postcards, dated 6/19 and 7/4, and 3 letters dated 6/18, 6/21, and 6/25.

Don't ever get the idea that the "wrap leggings of the sea" are stupormen. who takes them from the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli – some boot seamen probably. Anyway – the Navy. Ask any of the Raiders who are doing the toughest work in this war. I know, – the 2nd, 4th, and 5th were living with us

and they were all screaming that the only Marines doing any work in this mess were themselves. Ha Ha. Look, the gyrenes on battlewagons are all in the states or in some snug port; Marines are at every station in the states, and in every navy office building back there. So you see who's fighting the war. By the way, the first man to scout the Canal was from this outfit, and the first man to land was a Coast Guard followed by Gyrenes. Now, the NAVY is holding it; [redacted] and other places.

Im glad you were designated Mail Clerk. Are you going to be stationed in

San Francisco? I hope so.

I just got the word that Peggy had a boy and is home already. That was sure great news. By the way, Tom is out this way now. His address is

Standard Landing Craft
Unit 12
Navy 128
% FPO, S.F., Cal.

How are things at that U.S.O. camp? In case you fellows want any fighting done, don't hesitate to get some boots from Dago Station. You talk like a

salty Marine. You should stand in front of my locker and get some salt shaken on you to get some time in the outfit.

Well Maurice, I'll close now. Take care of yourself.

Love

Vin