

England
Jan. 6, 1944

Dear Mom, Dad, & Peggy,

Don't pass out at the shock
of receiving a regular letter from
me. I feel rather guilty at only
writing you V-mail letters. Will
try to do better from now on, -
how about a V-mail and a
regular mail each week?

Have Air-Mail envelopes now
so at least it won't take so long
to get to you, - maybe.

Received a letter from Marvin
today, - V-mail. It is the first
one from any of the family
besides you. Suppose I
should frame it. Looks like

except for you all, Jean's family
think more of me than my own
does. (Of course, I know it's not so.)

Jean's letters are regular
(she writes every day) and they
certainly make it seem to me
that I have a reason to fight.

It's mighty nice to know that
I have someone like her to
go back to after this is over.

Like the guy in the movie,
"Princess O'Rourke", far from

being sorry I ever met her, (now
that I had to leave her) I am

just sorry ~~that~~ for the other
fellows who don't have anyone
like my Jean to go back to.

Incidentally, I had my picture taken by my airplane just after I got back from a mission not so long ago. The P.R.O. said it will go to the K. C. Star. Just in case they publish the picture, will you get a copy and send it to Jean? I know she would appreciate the clipping. Just in case you are still in doubt, we are pretty proud of the job we're doing over here. According to Gen. Kepner, our C. G. of ^{8th} "Fighter Command (well here are his words, at least, approximately); "We have two

goals we are aiming at; first, the number of our bombers we bring back safely, and then, second, the number of German fighters we can destroy." So you see, this is not a case of going out and looking for trouble, which would be much more fun, but a case of staying with the bombers and protecting them, primarily. And so far, we have not lost a bomber to enemy fighters. I'm speaking for my Group, of course. So if I don't become a hero and shoot down a lot of Sutchmen, I can still feel that my job

is worthwhile because, who knows how many bombers I'll have helped get back just by being where I was when I was. Guess it will always be a thrill to fly over enemy territory because a guy never knows just when something might happen.

If that picture is published in the paper it will tell you that my airplane's name is "Jean's Warrior", so I guess I can tell you now. Sorta mushy, isn't it?

I must get some sleep.
Love to all. Kisses for Peggy,
Dad