

Sto(M) M Varrin

HMCS Ross Norman

16<sup>th</sup> Feb 1943

Dear "Sister, husband and kids"

Received your letter a few days ago and I really was surprised to hear from you. I had been thinking of dropping you a line but that's as far as it got as I don't write many letters. I guess I don't need to as my girl friend is down here ha ha.

How are you all getting on? As for me I'm okay except for a cold that I've had practically all winter.

I'm on duty tonight so I'm getting my writing done. The other two nights I have off I spend them down at Carol's place. I was there for supper last night and I guess I'll spend this week-end there if we are in which I hope we are.

I've got Carol out working for a living ehm. That's the way to handle them eh. She is working in the shipyards and she is making twice as much as me. She makes forty-three cents an hour and sixty-five cents an hour for overtime. Not bad eh. She is a time checker or something. She has the weekends off from Saturday noon until Monday morning too so thats not bad.

I asked her what she was going to do with all her money and she says she's going to put it in the bank to buy furniture and dishes when we get married. I guess she had better if she expects us to get married ha ha. Although I have money all month now instead for a week after payday like I used to have before I met her.

I've got the drinking pretty well licked now. She says I can celebrate on my birthday so I think I'll go on a little spree. The boys aboard ship haven't seen me drunk since Christmas eve. That's quite a while for me to stay sober. I've been going with Carol eight months on the end of this month. It is the longest I went with any girl.

How is Bruce, Pat and Joan doing? I guess I'll have to get Bruce to teach me to swear eh ha ha. It sure don't take them long to learn that. Is Pat going to school yet? I guess she's pretty big by now eh.

Well you were asking about my leave but I don't know when I'll be taking it. It comes up in two weeks time and I guess I won't be taking it. I may go home in May or June. I still owe the Navy money for overdrawing and I'm paying for a bond and insurance so I can't afford it just now. I would have to pay full fare if I went before April too and that would cost around fifty dollars without my meals so I'll stay until later on I guess. I guess Jack is back on the West Coast by now. Norval and Mom say he is as bad a bugger as he ever was. He's still girl crazy and falls for them all. Not like me. I fall for one and fall damned hard I guess ha ha.

Say, I haven't a snap of Carol just now. I have them pasted in my album but I'll get some negatives done and I'll send you one. I lost my wallet last Friday with three pictures of her in it besides my identification card, silver dollar, some money, receipts and my ration card for liquor (tough eh) ha ha. I sure hope some honest person finds it and turns it in. Carol found a man's good watch a few weeks ago and found the owner for it. I hope somebody does the same to me.

Well folks I'll say so long for this time. Hope to hear from you soon.

Your Brother "Murray" Varrin