

L/Sto M Varrin

HMCS Stadacona, Halifax, NS

18<sup>th</sup> Sept 1943

Dear "Sister, husband and kids"

Well don't faint folks but it is me at last. I finally got around to answering a few letters. I haven't written many letters since before I started my exams.

I finished my course about two weeks ago and passed it okay. I was sure glad to get it over with. I will be a Petty Officer in January if I stay out of trouble ha ha. I have to go to sea now and get some sea time in before January. At present I am living out on lodge and compensation and I'm staying at Carol's place. Boy are they ever swell to me here. I don't know what I'd do if it wasn't for them.

I'm working in the dockyard overhauling sub chaser engines at present. I have every night off and every week end off – pretty good eh. That's why I never get any letters written anymore.

I just finished given Carol a shampoo. I'm quite an expert at it ha ha. Boy is she ever a great kid. I hate to think of having to go away from her. I never ever dreamt a girl could mean so much to me. Remember how I used to hate them. There's still only one girl for me though.

Jack was home on leave. I was talking to young McCorran yesterday and he said he saw him. Norville says he is as much a bugger as ever. I don't know when I'll be getting leave. It may not be for a long time and in may be in a short time – it all depends on where I go. That's why I'm not married yet. It ain't because I don't want to be though ha ha.

I saw them launch a new destroyer for our Navy today. Boy it sure looked slick sliding down the ways.  
*(HMCS Micmac – launched by Halifax Shipyards 18 Sep 1943 – used as a training ship?)*

How are the kids doing? Are they going to school? I'll bet they like Montreal better than they did Cartier.

Boy am I ever thin. I'll be putting on weight now though as I feel better since I got out of barracks. I'm not even big enough to make a shadow now ha ha.

Where are you going on your holidays? I wouldn't mind about twenty-eight days myself. Well here's Carol so I'll buzz off for now.

Hope to hear from you soon or see you soon. Say what is your phone number?

So long folks

Your Brother "Murray"

PS Maybe I'll get a permanent address someday ha ha.