

L/Sto M Varrin

Ramsgate Kent (*HMS Fervent*)

27th May 1944

Dear "Sister, husband and kids"

Well here I am with another new address. I guess "we've had it." Our holidays are over for a while. We had ringside seats at Niobe and we didn't know it, now we are in the centre of the ring. They really play for keeps down here. I was on the (*Censored*) but am ashore again and awaiting another ship. I'm in what they call a pool and they can draft me at a moments notice. It isn't fun anymore – we are in earnest now.

This is the best part I've been in over here even though it is a dangerous area. I like it a little better now.

A lot of my old chums are in this flotilla. Two of the chiefs wanted me to go aboard their ships but I'm not sticking my neck out asking to go. If they draft me it's okay I'll go, those bullets they use aren't blanks.

I received your parcel the day before I left Niobe and I just ate the peaches this afternoon. Boy they were a real luxury after what all we've eaten over here. Thanks a million – I really enjoyed them. I really haven't had ti (*ensor cut*) ...use we've been all over the place. I've only written Carol twice since I left Niobe and I used to write her every other night. I'll be glad when this war packs up.

How are all the kiddies doing? Give them my love eh and tell them I hope I can see them soon but god only knows when it will be. I think it will be a long time yet and I won't be sorry when it is all over. We go to bed at night and wonder how soon the sirens will wail and wake us up. Some fun eh and it isn't a practice either ha ha. I sure wish I was in Canada.

I met Father Weaver in London on Trafalgar Square but didn't have much time to talk to him. He wants me to come and see him when I get leave but I guess leave is a thing of the past because we are in a restricted area.

We don't get any weekends and we have to be in by eleven thirty PM. Some fun eh.

Well I hope this letter gets to you okay and I hope you are all in the best of health.

Thanks again for the lovely parcel, I really appreciated it. So long. Keep writing eh.

All my love

Your Brother Murray