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Saturday  
Sept 23, 1944

My Deary & beloved Sweetheart,

Just received your letter of Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> with the opening paragraph being, another Saturday night honey, and here I find myself answering your letter on another Saturday night.

I can clearly understand why everybody feels so optimistic since the news of all the allied armies has been manifold, but now that we are closing in on Germany from all angles, there is definitely going to be a slacking of our forces, which is to be expected. I at a time felt very optimistic in thinking that the European war would be finished by the end of this year but now

4  
you have mentioned your desire some time ago also but since then your mind might have shifted and for reasons lets say, you don't want to hurt my feelings, at this particularly time you don't or haven't made any mention of it, either pro or con. I do realize that you must think of yourself and your attempt for your happiness considering the possible lengthy time element waiting for me. Its almost a year that I'm overseas and you never mentioned her in your letter of and any contact I assume you had with other men. You did not wish to become engaged and I also assume the reason being it was and is an excellent opportunity for you to explore to be positive of your future.

Regardless, if your answer dearest, my love for you is as strong as it ever was and the more I learn of life the more sure I am that you are the one for me. Don't interpret good night sweetheart, as I mean it in the highest and truest sense, as I mean it to be the highest and truest sense of love and affection.

Darling, if I have the opportunity<sup>3</sup>  
I don't miss out on seeing any movie  
picture that I've haven't seen in the  
past. So if and when I see go to  
movies I'll be hoping its the picture  
you would like me to see, "Going My Way"

Its been a long time since I've  
mentioned a very touchy topic but <sup>lately</sup> likely  
its been on my mind therefore I'll  
like to write it.

Possible you realize that my  
life for the next year and possible  
longer is very uncertain in that I'll  
probably have to remain in the Army  
for one thing or another, meaning <sup>off occupation</sup>  
troops in Pacific.

When I write you I love you  
I mean it with as much delivery as if  
I had held you in my arms and its  
because I love you so, possible I  
desire to want you when I return,

I have my doubts since it appears<sup>2</sup>  
as if Hitler is determined to prolong  
the war until the last square mile of  
territory is secured by our troops.  
Something is liable to occur within  
Germany as the civilians morale  
must be at its lowest and with our  
devastating blows both from the  
air and to ground forces, a striking  
situation can happen overnight.

I'm getting depressed in hearing  
from many sources that it won't be  
long now because so long as it the  
war continues I'll be doing the  
same soldiering as I've be done in  
my past combat days. I have myself  
believing those words of it won't be  
long now and can recall writing you  
those words on many occasions.