Hello, Marina,

I received your letter (long ago). You are already writing with an accent, often using the word “packet” (package)! They say in Russian “posylka” or “banderol”, although it is “a packet” in English. Usually I show your letters to Inna, Pavlik or the Zigers; to the latter—as occasion arises. After Inna read your letter, she decided to write to you; so did her mother. You probably have already received these letters.

It seems that everything here is the same as before. Lately we had -25° to -26° C. It is warmer now: -4° to -6° C.

I am graduating from the institute in a few months; I wonder where I will have to work.

I feel that this letter is rather short. But to write about everything in detail would end in a whole notebook, a feat which I am incapable of (terribly lazy). It would be better if you ask questions. This way it would be simpler and faster.
How is June? She will be one year old soon. Quite a big girl! She ought to resemble you. I do not want to say that Aleck is not handsome, but, generally, I liked you better. You have regular features, etc., which I cannot say about Aleck (you do not have to show him this portion of the letter).

You, probably, already speak English well. I envy you. I am poring over my dictionaries and textbooks, but this is a far cry from a living speech.

I will write something for Aleck.

(The next part is in English)

Dear Aleck,

Here is a letter to your wife. I wrote something about your face but I really didn't mean that. I always believed you to be a most attractive chap. I hope you are doing O.K. with your job and everything.

My best wishes to all you.

Will you answer soon.

My folks send their regards to you.

Your friend, Erick.