

Sunday

24 April 1955

Duty Night

11:45 PM

Dear Mom,

I've got two letters from you written on the 12<sup>th</sup> and the other on the 20<sup>th</sup>. You'd better get busy or I'll get PO'd. Ha Ha. I was very happy to receive your letters. Well Ma, I had better get busy on this letter before my eyes get too tired. I'm beginning to get a slight headache already and I had better hurry or I won't get this in the mail by the time I go ashore in the afternoon. I have liberty at 1:00 in the afternoon tomorrow. At least that's what has been given in the past. I hope it goes tomorrow as I am mailing the camera home to Dad. I'm sure he will be happy with it. You don't say too much to me about cameras or some of the things like that. Well, Mom I guess I'm going to have to stop as they hurt something terrible. It must be the headache. I'll finish this at noon tomorrow. Will continue in the morning or at noon time. So long for now and don't feel hurt as I'm tired as heck. So long and take care of yourself and Dad till I get up in the morning. So long for now.

Here I am back once again. Well how are you today? I hope you are well and in the best of health. Hope your back isn't giving you any trouble like it has been in the past couple of weeks. No Mom I haven't had any word from Don or Kate since around my birthday. Well I guess they are together at last and taking things easy over in the Philippines. I sure hope I get a chance to see them when I'm over there. Maybe I'll be in the Philippines by the first part of July or late June. I don't know for sure. I'll stop and see them if I get any where's near there. I guess she is working as she never liked to sit still while Don was working. Even in Whidbey Island, she was working for a while.

If I don't receive the last box I'll get it in Hawaii. Be sure to put goodies in it as they sure were good this last time. I'll be looking forward to the box by the time the ship gets ready to leave the States. I'll look for it in Hawaii if not when I leave. Hey, when I don't hear from you or Dad I don't get cross as an old bear. I just say to myself, "Mom and Dad will write". I can always

depend on yours and Dad's letters when I get down in the dumps. Ha Ha. I get way down sometimes but always bounce right back up again. Can't keep a Richey down for very long you know. Ha Ha.

I'll send Uncle Bob and Aunt Ruth one like the big one and one of the ship. Don't say anything to them about it as I want to surprise them. Don't mention a word to anyone other than Dad. I thought it would help pay for the phone call. I owe you \$20.00 more for the last call and will send it on payday. Nope, Eggball hasn't written to me lately. Not in the last six months or so. I'll drop him a line before I leave the States this time. Maybe he'll answer by the time I get to Hawaii. Going to turn the records over for a minute or two. Time out.

I'm back and have turned the records over already in a jerk of a lamb's tail. Ha Ha. Here goes on your second letter. You'd better write five or six at one crack and mail them at once in one day or Dad will be away ahead of you in writing. You just have to get hot. Heck I have to write too and I write more than you do. Ha Ha. I write to Dad and you all in the same day or night. Just sit down and write that's what I do. Ha Ha. I wonder if Grandma Caldwell got my letter yet? I'll have to write to her this week sometime. Also Aunt Gladys and Uncle Dutch, Aunt Belle & Uncle Jack.

Yes, the air conditioning is already on here in San Diego as it gets warm during the day and cool at night. Really don't need it but just might as well get used to it as it will be a long time in operation this time. Wow!, just think six months from now I'll be headed home once again. Hot Dog. Really looking forward to it this time. More so than ever before.

Hey you forgot to mention anything about the dishes. Got Hot Mama-San Hoki Doki. Nope Carin hasn't answered it yet, but he will as I know Don very well. I'll just wait on his answer. I'll take a check on 26 and 21" Samsonite luggage for you and let you know if I can get over to the base. There is still rumors of arriving Quonset Point Rhode Island next winter. Still not sure. You won't have to save any money to spend on me when I get out as I'll have a little loot and I'll be sure to have it. At least \$500.00 if I get out on the west coast and at least \$300.00 if on east coast.

You know how kids are at that age, all sass and no idea of how they upset their elders. I used to be the same way wasn't I? Don't lie about it either. I know damned well I was. I can still remember episodes of my sassy days. Ha Ha. Well Mom I can hardly find words to finish this letter and I'll write again maybe tonight if I come back from mailing the camera today. If I come in early I'll write again. You just take good care of yourself and Dad. Don't forget about the dishes. PLEASE. Say hello to all and I'll write when I can. WATCH my DOG "TINY" also. So long for now, as have to get ready and eat soon.

Your loving son,

Bobbie