

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Pop

DATE: 24 April 1955

FROM: Bobby

SUBJECT: Rolleiflex AutoMatic Cross-Coupled.

Here it is and I hope you like as well as I have liked it. Really is a very versatile camera and you hadn't better goof. I am sure you know how to operate it to its fullest operation. As for the Double exposure operation you have the handbook I got with it. This will be mailed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April from San Diego. I'll mail it before 1600PM. No out here it's only three hours difference. There isn't any film in it at all. I will enclose blue filter and close up series 6. Also neck strap. Your Rollei is here about three days ago when we came in. I hope you like it and don't force anything at all. Of course, there is a little tension when you advance the first bit of film to make #1 come up. Good luck with it Pop.

Your Pal,

Bob

26 April 1955  
Photo Lab.  
No Duty.

Hi Dad,

What's up with the two page letter? You didn't even finish the damned letter I could hardly understand what in the hell was going on. I mailed the camera yesterday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April. I insured it for \$250.00 and sent it registered. I hope you will receive it before Saturday. I'll mail the clothes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or sooner. Maybe on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. Your shoes will be in with them. I'll insure them for as much as they are worth or what I can. I found the negative of the 35mm and I'll print your negatives of the ruptured gun. I'll also send them in with the clothes.

Your first page doesn't have a question on it. Nope I am not broke. Don't expect to be. I'm glad that you found out who hit the car and took off.

Hell no I haven't shot the damned score board again. When I get the time, I'll shoot it over again. I think that you ought to use Kodachrome more often as the New Ektachrome is good but not for enlargements.

Where in the hell is the rest of this letter? I don't know what to talk and it made me mad when I was reading the letter and came across only one page to answer. Damn it to hell anyway only one page and nothing else. Cripes, you'd better get busy on the mail or I'll get PO'd. It sure has me shook up as to the letter. I still can't figure out what in the heck happened to the rest of the letter.

Well, if I feel like it, I'll work on the model tonight. Maybe I can get the wings done if I can get some ambition up. I could get the wings almost done if I worked constantly on it and then install the bell crank mount in it ready for the control rods. Sure hope it flies as good as my warrior or mustang has flown. How is the weather here in Munhall? Hope that it isn't bad as we are having nice weather here on the West Coast.

My fingers are almost better except that the new nails are still a long way from being completely in. The old ones are gone as I kept picking around and they finally came off and the fingers look like something out of a Horror story. Real gone feelers. Ha Ha.

Hurrah, another letter from you. You sure had me going on the previous letter. My fine game of golfing hasn't been so hot as I haven't been out since we came back in. Too busy and hand (fingers) bother me once in a while. Heck now I won't throw the model overboard if I don't get it done, I'll bring it home that way. This one is going to be finished if it takes me all this cruise.

Nope, the clothes are still here and I still go on liberty and I hate to wear the uniform as I just can't relax in it with about forty thousand sailors on the streets in uniform. I think you know what I mean don't you? I sure hope so as I'm not long for this Navy. Only 1 year and about 27 days to go. Ha Ha.

Well, it's almost time for chow and I think that I will go and eat as I'm hungry and ate like a starved dog at noon meal. Not going over on the beach tonight as it's too expensive to go over all the time. Besides I want to work on the model or print some pictures. You had better keep the car in the garage as Red will probably run into it.

No more mail today. None other than your letter and none from Mom or anyone else. Sure hope you receive the Rollei in good shape. It was 4.0 when I mailed it and you will have to try to see it is working properly. Use the instruction booklet to get checked out on the Double exposure part of it. Other than that, it's the same as the one you sent to me. I sure hope you like it now that you have it or will have it by the time payday rolls around which is Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup>. I'll send \$20.00 more home on payday and that should take care of the phone calls. Let me know as to how much it will cost. I'll call Saturday night instead of when I said in the previous letter. You and Mom had better be home or I'll spank your rear and I don't mean tire, either. Say hello to all and tell them to write to me. I wrote to Aunt Ruth and Uncle Bob and sent them the pictures in another envelope as I forgot to enclose them in the letter that I had written to them. I hope they like them as I had a hard time making decent prints from the negatives with all the dirt that had been ground into them along with the scratches on them. I hope they like them. Too bad Uncle Bob doesn't have a little better camera to use and he would get more out of his pictures even if they are only on vacations or fooling around. Sure hope that Tiny will turn out good for hunting season this year. Sure like to try and hunt with him without mistaking him for a rabbit or a fox. Keep an eye on him.

I'll get three out of every four days liberty while we are in the States. When we go overseas, I'll probably get two out of three. I guess you don't realize how much I can save out of my pay do you when I am at sea. Really something to study over. Ha Ha. Oh by the way, if I get a Linhof, I won't have your CONTAX or the ROLLEIFLEX that I have now. It'll be one camera and that's all with three lenses of course. More than likely it would be 4x5 Linhof. If not, another 35mm either Leica or same Contax, and a Rollei. Sure like the Rolleiflex as I sure feel at ease with it in my hands and not like it is something strange to work with.

You're pretty sure of my making PH2 aren't you and Mom. Well, I'm not quite so sure so to speak. But I have as good as chance as anyone and maybe a little more. I've worked in a lot of the jobs here in the lab and I think I have had a lot of Photographic experience as far as I'm concerned. I just hope I can pass the exam well enough and high enough to get rated.

I sure like this typewriter. Maybe I'll get a good one made in the USA over in one of the ship's service. Really less expensive than here in states. Well, there's the end of your letter and you better shoot some good pictures with the NEW ROLLEI that I have sent to you. You have to shoot a lot in order to get good pictures even if you only shoot a couple of rolls and get two or three good ones. I'm going to go and work on the WILDCAT just as soon as I eat and come back to the lab. See if you can make out the last word in the sentence before this one. My fingers get all crossed up and get ahead of one another. YOUR ROLLEIFLEX IS ON THE WAY STOP. HOPE YOU LIKE IT STOP. I SENT IT REGISTERED MAIL STOP. SURE HATED TO PART WITH IT STOP. HA HA STOP. HOW IS THE CAR HOLDING UP DON'T STOP .

Well I'm going to the compartment and change into blues and come back to the lab and work on wildcat. So, so long and tkea dogo reac fo hterom rfo em. [*Translation: take good care of mother for me.*] So long and be good.

Your pla nda hadows [*pal and shadow*],

REAL GONE CODE AIN'T IT? Ha Ha.

Obiebb [*Bobbie*]