

U.S.S. Hornet CVA-12

Photographic Laboratory

21 May 1955

Hi Dad,

Received your letter today on the Linhof and about the Nikon S-2. Hope you don't mind, but I like the Linhof and it's sure swell. How do you like the idea of 2 ¼ x 3 ¼? I like it and I think I'll get it. Here goes on your next to last letter. I'll answer today's on my duty in the morning. I only have a few minutes to type this letter so I'll have to hurry in order to get this in the mail.

I'm glad to hear that the dog finally tongued a rabbit. Hot dog. He'll be on the ball this next hunting season for sure. I'm sure glad he started to tongue. You had better take it easy on casting or you won't be able to shoulder a shotgun this coming fall. I'm certainly glad you caught some fish. Oh by the way, I sent you forty dollars in the letter before this one and you should have it by now. I hope that it will help out with the phone bill, and some left over for your luxury and Mom's maybe. A movie might be left over from it or something like that. More on the next page and here I am once again.

The lab boss sure is swell and he sure is one swell fellow. Does a lot for the morale of the men in the lab. It wasn't bad crossing. No storms at all and the shots weren't as bad as they seemed to be. On the other hand my cold is over and I feel great. I took an all-day tour of the island of Oahu. Really was worth \$2.50. I spent 36 exposures of Kodachrome, 1 roll of Ektachrome 120, and 1 roll of 35mm Ektachrome and 1 roll of B & W 120. Sure shot all that I could. Sure shot up a storm didn't I? Ha Ha. I sure hope that you can use the dough.

I guess you'll have to go up and see their house. You got some mail didn't you? Glad that you got the rattle out of the accelerator as it was shaking you up wasn't it? Ha Ha. I sure like new cars don't you? Ha Ha. Who in the heck doesn't like them. I'm sorry that I didn't mention the key in the letter but I lost it and a bunch of others over the side one day in San Diego. I had

started on liberty and had a bunch of keys in my pocket and I started back to the lab and then called up to one of the fellows outside of the lab to get one of the fellows out of the lab.

I threw them and over shot and they bounced off of the side of the ship and back into the drink. Ha Ha. Lost a whole bunch of them. A couple to my camera case but a bobby pin will work. And locker keys and some other keys for a locker in town. Sure had my temper up over that one. Ha Ha. I got more keys now but I'm not going to throw them anymore as I hate to lose them out in deep water. Ha Ha.

I am sure looking forward to getting in Hong Kong as the Linhof is in the bag now that I have your advice on it and I thought that you would sort of like it. It'll be Linhof Technika "2¼ x 3¼" complete with three lenses, and a few accessories. Like I mentioned in the list that I typed up. But you gave me confidence when you said about retouching such a small negative. I thought the same as you did but a few of the fellows seem to think it's hard to work with. But I thought to myself we Richey's can do any damn thing we set our mind to do. And it's true you know. Ha Ha.

I'll write a letter to Mom tomorrow and one to you also. I'll answer all letters that I have received so far. You ought to copy with the photofloods that I and you bought when I was home.

You have my Materguide and it's correct if you can read it and follow directions. I don't think very much on copying in existing light. Don't let the dope out on the Ten-X formula. I didn't work it out with a couple of the fellows here in the lab for every Tom, Dick, & Harry to use. Its good and it'll work damn good for me and not for someone else. As I know how I want it exposed and etc. Of course you won't have any trouble with it. At first you might begin to wonder if I am shooting the bull with you but I'm not in the least.

Time out for a new typewriter ribbon. I've got another ribbon in the machine and you can see that it's somewhat better. **I think it's better on the red. I'll have to try it out in the morning before I** decide to write Mom's letter in the latter part of the morning. I'll trade to the best advantage as you know I'd sure gripe like hell if I got hooked and then I probably wouldn't get the Linhof.

I'm very glad that you like the list I sent to you. Sure is nice isn't it. I thought that I would have all that we could possibly want or use. Don't you think so?

I could teach you one hell of a lot of tricks of the trade that you will be amazed with. You won't believe it but it's true. Most of our work is just common ordinary horse sense. Ha Ha. Not saying that you don't have any, but you're not exposed to it like I am. I mean Photography, and no wise remarks from the front row. I'll be one glad fellow when you decide to use cone type of film.

I thought you might have used the 28mm wide angle and shot one picture of the trout on the end of the line jumping around. You could fish in shallow water, if you fell you wouldn't go in over your head and have the 28mm lens on and hold the rod with one hand and preset exposure and shoot with the other hand. Don't even have to focus with the 28mm lens. As there's a tremendous amount of depth of field in the lens itself. But you don't have to take any chances as when a Lecia gets wet you might as well get another one. Sure they can repair them but they are never the same and they cost like HELL to have repaired. Sure can't wait until you and I can go fishing and I can fish and shoot pictures at the same time and if you don't think I can you have another thought coming.

[4 blank pages of stationary enclosed with the letter]