

26 May 1955
Pearl Harbor
Hawaii

Hi Dad,

Here I am once again with no mail to answer. Sure in hell hope that you will send some letters before the first of the month. How do you like this red letter? I thought that it would be something of interest and give you a headache. Ha Ha. Nope, I don't want you to have a headache after reading this letter. Use a red filter to read this letter through. If these red letters hurt your eyes, use a green or blue filter and it'll change the color of this ink from red to black or light grey. Try it and you'll see the why and how of filters. I'm not kidding, I mean it.

Well, how was the Hell Razor after you fixed the dolly? Sure hope that it will fly good. Maybe you ought to try a prop with more bite or less bite. It may be that it isn't getting the full benefit out of the engine prop and high rpm. Try something out and get it flying and then shoot one good shot of it with the 135MM lens on the Leica. You could use Ten-X on this and still have plenty of depth of field. Probably shoot it at about 1/1000 sec at f11.0. That is on a bright day. I may be off as far as the exposure is concerned. You can use the meter. I know for sure that on a bright day you can shoot Plus-X at an A.S.A. of 500 and shoot at 1/500 sec. f22. I can guarantee that if you do everything according to the instructions that I sent with the formula, you will be 4.0 on the exposure and development of the film. Make sure you get a nice image on the negative.

I'll continue this letter tonight and you will probably have a letter in this evenings or mornings mail. I'll be looking forward to plenty of mail. I'm going to send in my roll of Kodachrome 35mm 36 exposure roll soon as I can. I'll send it this week and I'll probably have it by the time I arrive in Japan. I'll title them and send all of them home as soon as I get a chance to view them and see what I shot.

Nothing much doing on the ship. I don't have the duty tonight so I may be able to work on the "Wildcat" a little before I turn in. I got the body sides and frame work done and motor mounts installed and that's as far as I have went with it so far. I'll have to find some good material for hinges as I don't want them to crack and lose control of the plane and crack it up. I'm quite sure

that it will take outside loops with the Fox 35 in it. I'm going to invert the engine and see just what she will do on a 9x6P. I think I may be able to get about 75-80 mph out of it with ease. Maybe I won't but I'll give it a try anyhow.

How is the fishing coming along? You ought to have caught at least a dozen or more since I last heard from you and Mom. I will finish this page and then go to noon meal and finish this letter this evening. Not too much to do except eat, sleep, work and loaf. Ha Ha. Don't get up too often to get any sun at all. Sort of like it in the store-room as no one bothers me hardly at all except when they want something. Then it's like I had a thousand recorders in my brain and fill all requests at an instance's notice. Sure is hell when I get shook up enough to be PO'd at them then. I get PO'd and they just slow down to where I can handle them. Sure think I have a dozen or so hands and fingers. Well only 365 more days to go and then out to see how the world is getting along. Ha Ha.

Well, I'm back again and nothing new except that I played a couple of games of pinochle. Wilkins and myself played two others in the lab and we didn't even come close to winning. I can't understand it as Wilkie and myself sure can team up against anyone and beat hell out of them. We've been playing together for over a year and can just about read each other's thoughts as to the game. Well, we'll give it another try one of these other nights.

Well, we finally went into the regular place where we tie up in Pearl. Only a few more days here and on to Japan. I don't know when we will arrive there as no one seems to know. Have you received the money in the letter? CRIPES, I SENT IT ON THE 16TH OR A DAY OR SO FROM PAYDAY. I got a letter from you that was written on the 22nd and mailed 24th. Cripes, I got it today the 26th. Pretty fast service and it had to be returned for additional postage.

How come you haven't acknowledged the receipt of the \$40.00???????????? Now I'm worried about it as I sent it for the telephone call and couldn't get to the post office. Sure hope no one has snatched it out of the mailbox at home. If they have I'd like to catch them and kick the hell out of them. I only get \$70.00 a pay and I sent forty of the last one home so you could get the phone bill that I ran up paid. I won't call from Japan or Hawaii. I'll call when I arrive back in San Diego about six months from now.

I like the pictures of the fish but you ought to have laid a ruler to compare the size to something. You can distort hell out of objects, with a camera. Ha Ha. Gee, I see you don't make enough money to buy cigarettes with. I clear \$140.40 per month and don't even work for it.

I like the pictures of the baseball game. Good clear pictures and nice exposure. I can even see the ball and it's in the middle. You ought to have used the 135mm and you could have shot plays being made at the bases. Like a fellow stealing second and the play being made. That copy job on my picture is ok but it has a good bit of grain. You have to use a darn slow film for copying pictures like that and that would be a continuous-tone film used. I mean you would want to reproduce in the continuous-tone line. I think you will find all of the dope in my books. Well, I'll finish this one tomorrow.

Here it is the 30th of May and only one more day in Hawaii. I went out to Waikiki yesterday but not to swim. Shot more pictures. I'm going out there again this morning and I will shoot a few pictures and then go swimming and probably shoot some more pictures after I come out of swimming. I hope that I don't burn too bad today. I'll get some Olive oil and iodine and mix it up and the sting will be taken out of it a little and the oil will help me from drying all the oil out of my system.

No mail today. Sure wish you and mom would write about four or five at a time. I shot some ASA 35mm Ektachrome yesterday in the Marine Gardens at Waikiki Beach and shot them at various colored fish in tanks. Of course the sunlight was coming down through the top and I shot through glass. I shot some at f2 @ 1/10 sec and some at f1.5 at 1/25 sec. I hope they turn out as I didn't take the meter as I was intending on only shooting silhouettes at sunset. But I just couldn't resist the opportunity.

We are to have a mail call sometime this morning. I'll try and wait and see if I have any mail this morning. Sure was happy to hear that you snagged and netted a 23½" Brown trout weighing 5 pounds. Well I got a glove and a ball and so has Wilkins and we will catch a bit out at Waikiki.

Well, I'll have to get going as it's almost ten in the morning and I hope to enjoy myself as I'll sail tomorrow for about fifteen days. Just you write and I'll receive mail prior to arriving in Japan. Going to operate for a few days before arriving in Japan.

Well Pop, so long and take care of yourself and Mom. So long for now and send some pictures of the "MONSTER". Hope they turn out swell. Well, so long for now until I write again.

Your Pal,

Bobby