

U.S.S. Hornet CVA-12
Photographic Laboratory

4 June 1955

Midway Island

Dear Mom and Dad,

Here it is Saturday the 4th of June and not in Japan yet. Will arrive in a few more days I guess. Probably take at least nine or ten more days until we reach there. Hope you two are fine and in good health. I'm fine and got a nice tan. Only peeled a little bit from the sunshine at Waikiki.

I didn't get the film done yet but will do so in the future. Hope to mix the chemicals some time next week. I have two rolls of 120 Ektachrome, six rolls of Ansco Color 120 and two rolls of 120 black and white to process. I shot all of this at Hawaii. So you see I sure didn't waste too much time swimming. I also shot a couple of rolls of 35mm asa color and one roll of asa 10 Kodachrome. So, it all totals up to one hundred and seventy-eight pictures. Not bad for a short stay in Hawaii. I sure have to shoot lots more the next time on the way back to the States. I'll write more before we get to Japan as we have been busy as all get out since we left Hawaii.

I hope that we don't have too much to do now that we will leave Midway and no land within 250 miles. I'll be glad as the planes won't fly as often. I'll have a few letters written by the time I arrive there. I hear that we won't be in there long this time as we will leave after only a few days in Japan. Sure don't know what to expect to happen as they don't put out any information as to what's happening or what's going on. Hope you and Dad are in good health and taking good care of yourself.

Oh, by the way I have a slide here that I thought I had sent home but I didn't. I'll send it in this letter along with a few that I shot out at the Marineland Aquarium in Waikiki Beach. I shot them at f1.5 @ 1/25th sec. Existing light. I think they are pretty good for the first time I shot under water. Had a heck of a time shooting as they wouldn't stay in any one place.

Well, what's new on the home front. I hope you are catching all the rascals that have escaped your hooks in the past.

I'll have to eat like heck as I am working out doing a few exercises to build up my arms and chest and nothing too hard. You can picture how good a shape I am in. My chest is 42" normal and 45 ½" expanded. Waist is 32", hips 35", calf is 16", and ankle is 9". Forearm 14 ½", bicep 15 ¾", neck 15 ½". Height is 5'10" and weight is 184 pounds soaking wet. Ha Ha. Short hair with a few splotches of grey here and there. Sort of in pretty good shape. Ha Ha.

I'll paddle your behinds if you don't write to me more often. I don't expect to receive any mail enroute to Japan, but I had better have at least a dozen letters waiting for me. So long for now as I just can't think of too much to say for the present time. I'm going to send the Rollie accessories just as soon as I ditch it. I'll also send one filter series VII for use with Type A Kodachrome out of doors. I can use it on the 85mm and 135mm lens on the Leica.

Well folks, so long for now as I can't write any letters, that will sound like the good ones I used to write as I had something to answer. Be good and take care of yourselves. So long for now and write when you can. So long and take care of each other for me.

Your loving son,

Bobbie