

U.S.S. Hornet CVA-12
Photographic Laboratory
14 June 1955
YOKOSUKA, JAPAN

Dear Mom and Dad,

Arrived yesterday in the morning after laying off of Yokosuka all night before. We will be here until Friday and then out for one heck of a long time. Oh by the way Dad I sold Rollie for a few bucks. I got \$130.00 for it and couldn't get a cent more. It seems to be that my model I have at home is not a new one anymore. They have a Model 5 C out now and it's the latest. I'll keep the one at home and the heck with the new ones.

I received about twelve letters yesterday and I'll answer all of them before Friday. You no doubt will think that I haven't even received any of the letters. I thought I told you that I knew you received the \$\$\$\$\$. The fudge is darn good and still fresh except that it was a little sticky. I have some Kodachrome slides that I'll send home before we leave this time. I'll send the EXCESS ROLLIE gear home during this next operating period. I will still probably be at sea when you get the gear. I'll drop you a line a little later on before Friday telling what to expect. I'll also send some slides in the box they came in another package.

WHERE'S the 23" TROUT??? HA HA HA HA. The 17" is really nice. You done well and exceptionally good on the ones with the bad light on Mother. Very good for an amateur. HA HA. You should have gotten around a little more to Mom's right when you shot the picture. The one of the fish is good. In fact it's very good. Why in the heck didn't you whistle at Tiny and then his ears would have stood up. Oh yes, by the way today I'm on the road to sell the Contax to some joker for \$250.00. I won't take any less than \$225.00 for it. I hope you don't think me greedy but I have heard rumors of hitting there this time out. Don't know for sure but I don't want to be out in the cold and not hit it again. The All American SR is very good. But you ought to have moved in a little more. I'll send these slides back in this letter. I got a letter from Grandma Richey and \$5.00 was in it like the last cruise. On #11 get closer for a shot like that and on #10.

Well I'm finally in Japan and it's still like it was the last time, except that things have quieted down and I don't mean in the Formosan Area. I mean in Thieves Alley and those sort of places where vice and all sorts of stuff goes. Wow, a 24 page letter to me and I can't even get it all answered now so this letter will have to do for a start and then I'll answer the rest of them tomorrow when I have the duty. I'll have a stack of letters to answer to you and Mom by the time I get ready to go to sea.

I saw a few people that I knew from the last cruise and they were glad to see me. Always kept saying long time no see. I told them I went home and took 30 days leave. I'm fine and still as screwy as ever I guess. Nothing to do in the lab during this stay in Yoko. So I just set around and do nothing. I don't do much of anything anyway. I'm the storekeeper and they don't work hard at all. Ha Ha. Have to be a brain to remember all the #'s and stock numbers and supply forms. Ha Ha. Well enough of that for now or you'll begin to think that my head has swollen about two or three times too big.

Well, I just wanted to be sure you get a letter before we pull out as I don't know what the schedule for tomorrow will bring. I hope and will get at least four letters off to you and Mom. Well, say hello to all the folks and get a good shot of the dog. Please. Shoot a few. So long for now and take care of yourself and Mother. Be good and write, I like mail by the batch. Ha Ha.

Your Pal & Shadow,

Bobby

P. S. Howdy Ma, I'm not forgetting you but I have to stop now as it's almost time to start back to work. I'll write you a pile of letters and you will have to take all day long for you to read all of them.

Your loving son,

Bobby