

13 April 1955
STORE-ROOM
PHOTO LAB.
USS HORNET CVA12
2100 PM PCT

Dear Mom,

Hi there, how's my Mom today? Hope you aren't mad at me for not sending you an Easter card. I was at Sea the week before and forgot all about Easter being so close. I'm fine and in good health I got my shoes off and shirt off as it's hottern blazes. Got my pants about off too. Ha Ha. Sure is hot here in the lab. They haven't turned the Air conditioning on yet. I'm going to see about it in the morning.

Well the store room is all squared away from all the mess it was in except for a little odds and ends here and there. I'll have them all cleared up before we go out to sea next week. I have the darned duty this Saturday and will play golf Sunday or maybe shoot pictures. I think will play golf.

Well, Ma, in about another month from now I'll be in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for three whole weeks. Won't that be nice. Yippee. Ha ha. I still haven't received the easter egg you said you mailed to me. I'm looking for it and the camera you said you and Dad were to send to me. They are having night flight operations tonight and I can't sleep with the darn jets landing over top of my compartment. Make me too jumpy with all of the noise when I'm trying to sleep.

I called Aunt Belle and she must have cried after I hung up as she sounded like she was filling up. Really thinks a lot of me doesn't she and Uncle Jack. Sure are very nice Aunt and Uncle to have. Gee, I'm so darn lucky to have so many nice Uncles and Aunts. Sure wished that I could be a very lazy civilian once again in the near future about 12 months from now. Only ONE to GO. Ha Ha.

Well Mom, it's just about taps and I have to get up early in the morning at six like always and I like my sleep. I can finish this in the afternoon as I have an hour for chow. I'll type until I'm too tired to see and then close.

How's Grandma Caldwell and Mabel getting along? I hope Grandma Richey isn't in bad shape. She deserves a rest but I guess she wouldn't rest anyway. She's always been busy most of the time and she likes to cook and fool around the house. Sure miss all of the folks back home. I'll be getting out shortly in another year and I'll be home.

I must have caught some cold or something as I've sure got one now. Must have been the quick weather change. Wow, it sure is warm here now. Hottern heck and colder at night too. So long for now and I'll finish this in the morning, or at noon chow time. I'm feeling good and in good health. So long for now, your loving son, Bobby. 2200 PM PCT.

Hi there once again, here it is 1214 PM PCT just after the noon meal. Pretty good, but not good enough to make anyone individual ship over. Sure ate a lot and it was pretty good. I'm getting paid in the morning and will have a bundle, about \$70.00 for a pay this time and it's the new pay bill. I sure wish that I can make PH2 as it will be about 25 more bucks every payday. I sure could use it. I mean \$25.00 per month increase. I sure would have a bundle to spend then wouldn't I? Ha Ha. Oh well you can't have your cake and eat it also. I sure would like to try.

Well nothing new here in the lab. I haven't done any more work on the plane for about three weeks. I'll get on it one of these days and get more of it finished. I'm going to play few holes golf this Sunday if its nice and warm. I'll shoot a good game that's for sure. I may break a 100 yet if I'm not too careful? Ha Ha. Oh well, if I keep up with my playing I'll eventually begin to improve. I lose too many balls all the time. Especially when I hit one into the woods.

We are still out on the H2O today and tomorrow. We will go in around 3 or 4 in the afternoon and liberty at 4:30. Well in about four more weeks from now we will be pulling out of the states for three weeks vacation in Hawaii. I hope I can get a lot of pictures even if it's raining or snowing. Ha Ha. Sure will be hot though. Another initiation for the Polliwogs coming up in August. Probably go into Singapore, Malaya.

Well MA, I'm out of gab so I think I will close for now and take it easy as it's a few minutes to 1300 PM PCT or 1:00 PM. So long for now and take good care of yourself and Dad.

Your loving son,
Bobbie

[Incudes a negative of a damaged gun on a desk. This image is referenced in later letters.]