

19 April 1955

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Dear Mom,

Hi Ma, what's new with you this morning? It's almost seven in the morning and I have been up since around five this morning. The vibration from the ship woke darn near the whole compartment up. We are making a run for somewhere's up along the coast of California on some sort of practice mission. Sure going like hell though. I thought the ship could make good speed, but she sure is flying this morning. The ship must have hit top speed about five as that was when I woke up as the darn ash trays on the walls flew off and bounced on the deck. Sure had us wondering what the heck are they trying to prove. I think we have to rendezvous with the Boxer this morning. Part of an operation plan of some sort. I guess it's just to keep us (the ship is top notch shape) just in case we have to be utilized to any great extent.

Well, I guess you have been up about three hours or so is this your late day? I'm fine and feel great. I ate chow at 5:30 AM this morning and it sure was good as I missed evening chow last night and fell also to slumberland. How is Dad getting along? Hey, you didn't say a word to me about your being sick or ill. You had better let me in on the scoop when you or Dad become ill or anything's wrong like that. I worry enough as it is without you two not telling me anything that goes on back home. I sure could use about thirty days leave right now up on some summer resort or something like that. Well only 1 year and 38 more days to do and I'll be on the outside of the Navy and having one swell time even if it is doing nothing. Ha Ha. Time out for a cup of coffee. I haven't had my morning coffee yet and I miss it Ha Ha.

How is Grandma Caldwell and Mabel getting along since I last heard from you and Dad? I understand that Grandma Richey is in the hospital for observation or something like that. Well, I'll send her a card on Friday and say hello to her for me. I'll write more later on in the week when I can think of something more to say. It's almost seven o'clock in the morning already and I have not had my coffee as of yet. I've got the coffee now and feel lots better since I have had my first swig of some coffee.

Well Ma, I think that I will close for now and get ready to loaf throughout the day. This new job of storekeeping is sure a lazy man's job. I just can't find enough to keep me busy all day long. Maybe it's the spring fever that's got a hold of me Ha Ha. Well, so long for now as the fumes from gassing airplanes is beginning to make my eyes a little tired. So long and take care of yourself and Dad. Say hello to all and I'll write soon.

Your loving son,
Bobby