

22 June 1955

At Sea

Location ???

Hi Pal,

Here goes on another of your letters. I have a letter written on the 30th of May. Here goes. I hear that we will have mail tonight as the helicopter brought some from the Oriskany. Gee, you sure had a nice feast. Six trout and me not there to help eat them. But you can catch some next season and put them in the deep freeze till I get home.

I'm going to work on the wing again tonight and put the tips on and install the stabilizer and maybe the elevator. Not too much to do but work, eat, sleep, and loaf around.

I hope that I have some mail in this evening's mail call. I mailed the accessories for the Rollie this afternoon and will mail the fly rod in the morning. I sent the accessories by AIR MAIL AND IS insured for \$50.00. You ought to receive by the first of July if not sooner. I don't think I will insure the fly rod as I don't think it's very expensive. I only bought it as you said we had enough. But I had a few Yen left and decided since we were going out to sea shortly I could afford it. I hope it will be pretty good.

I'm glad that you are shooting the ANSCO COLOR AND ASA 25 FILM. Heck you ought to be a sharpie by the time I get home. I sure hope the next three days pass like the past three years. We, rather I, hope it's nice the next three to ten days. The 35mm stuff was swell and I still have them here on the ship. I'll mail them shortly. Surprised that I mailed the accessories for the ROLLIEFLEX? I bet that you about dropped over when you read about that.

I can imagine that Leslie would learn to fly in a couple of months. But he would have to have quite an interest and keep it up or he'd lose interest for a while and then decide that he wanted to learn some more. I'll shoot a picture of it with the 4x5 view camera on the ship.

I'm glad you like the lighter. I still have mine and it works like a charm.

Burwell isn't going to buy a Linhof. He bought a Japanese Olympus Flex 2.8 lens and likes it very much. I don't care for it as it weighs almost as much as a speed graphic. Sure is heavy and for a 2¼ x 2¼ camera, it outweighs all of them. I don't like it and he paid 100.00 for it. For fifty dollars more that would have bought him a Rollie. I can't see why he didn't get a Rollie or another Canon. He sold one of his cameras. Said he gave it to a friend, but I know Burwell and I know he sold it. Can't bull shit me. OOPS, I cussed. Well, enough of that for now. I'll have to finish this later as Wilkins is bothering me.

Well, we got mail, but I don't know if I got any at all. I'll have to wait till they bring it up. Got three letters. One with Wee Hong's address in it. Thanks loads, now when I get there, I'll know someone from home. Sure will be nice if I can get to see him. Letters dated 10th, 12th, and 15th. Received them today, the 22nd of June. Not bad for a long way from home. Tell Mom to hurry up and write.

I'm glad you liked the color slides I sent. Burwell shot that one of me with all the hair. I didn't even know about the place until I ran into it and didn't carry the strobe as I was swimming that day and didn't intend on taking many pictures. Ha Ha. If I see WEE HONG, I'll have a couple pictures taken with him and send them to you to show his people at the laundry. OK. That is if I see him. Well, you didn't say too much or ask hardly any questions at all so that ended that letter. More to come. Hang on for a minute.

Nope, I haven't done any processing for quite some time now and I'll have to get hot one of these days and tear into all the color I shot. Stay away from gimmicks on Leica. You have 135, 85, 50, 28 millimeter lenses for it and you don't need anything at all.

Nope, I asked Aunt Bell to stop sending the Messenger as it took too long to get it while over here. I'll write to her and Uncle Jack Friday night when I have the duty. It's now eight o'clock and one of the other fellows asked to use the typewriter so I'll finish this letter and let him use it for a while. I hope that you and Mom are well and taking good care of each other.

They were printed on the wrong kind of paper. He should have used a harder grade of paper as that's why they were milky looking. I'll send the negatives of the gun when I find them. I thought I had sent them, but I'll look some more. I still have the negative of Leslie.

Well, I finally finished the semi-annual report to be sent into the Bureau of Aeronautics, Photographic section and it's done until December now. Sure glad that's over with as I just about went you know what. Now the mail will come like a continuous line of ants. Ha Ha.

I've been working on the model and will have it ready to fly by the time I arrive back in Japan about the end of July.

Well, that's the end of your letters for now so I'll close for now and then start on another one for tomorrow. I'm fine and in good shape, haven't read anything on the ANSCOCHROME yet. If I do I'll let you know what I think of it. Well, so long for now. I've tried to write a few letters now and then just to keep you and Mom busy once in a while, but I have been busy as hell. Report is mailed and so is the Rollie Accessories. I'll mail the fly rod tomorrow and you can try it out. Maybe catch the big prize with it at Mountain Valley. Well, so long for now. I'll write again tomorrow. I'll have to answer Mom's letter tomorrow night and a couple of hers or she will be mad at me. So long for now and take care of yourselves.

Your Pal and Shadow,
Bobby