

U.S.S. Hornet CVA-12
Photographic Laboratory
9 May 1955
Enroute to Hawaii

Dear Mom and Dad,

Hi there and how are you folks getting along since the 3rd of May. Only about 450 miles out of Pearl Harbor now and will arrive in the morning. I'm fine except for a stiff neck which I got this morning. I turned my head and a bone or something must have snapped or something. I hope it will be alright in a day or so.

Well, in to the beach in the morning and back out again for night operations till the end of the week. I'll keep the Postman busy with carrying mail to 820 11th Avenue continuously. How do you like the new stationary that we have in the lab? Got it printed the other day in the print shop. We gave them a few prints of the ship and they just return the favor.

I hope you two will take it easy this summer and get out more than you two do. Go for a fishing trip or something like that. I hope you folks enjoy this summer as much as I am intending on doing. Hope you don't get sun burn too much. It's warm already and the heat is beginning to tell on some of the people.

Just about time for chow now so I think I will close for now and finish this letter later on this evening if I can get back to the type-writer. I don't know what to have in the mess hall but I'll sure get enough to eat. More later on with a little more information. So long for now.

I'm back again. Played a little cards pinochle for an hour or so. Have to get this letter in the mail before 1000 this evening or it won't go out in the morning mail.

I got one heck of stiff neck from learning first aid and rescue instructions. I was putting a man down from the fireman's carry and his shoulder hit the back of my neck and head and something popped. I feel alright except that's it's a little sore and stiff if I move too quick. It will be all right

in a couple of days or so. My arms are better from the shots already. Sure glad that they don't hurt anymore. WOW!, they sure did hurt like heck.

I have to go and take a shower before the lights go out. Hope that you two are in good health and taking good care of each other. I'm fine and will have plenty of sunshine in about three days from now. I'll be sure to send some pictures of me in the sun.

I will have all of your mail answered by the time I get back in on Friday afternoon. Hope you have lots of spare time to write to me. I'll enclose a couple of slides that I think you and Mom will like. They are with the new 35mm Ektachrome color with the strobe unit.

Well, not much more to say for now except to write and keep me informed on the local news. I'll be looking forward to the report on the trout caught this year. Maybe I can show you a few pictures if I get a chance in Japan. Maybe a Pheasant if I'm darned lucky. Have lots of game there in the Yokosuka area. I'll try for R.R. that is Rest and Recreation for three or four days in Tokyo or at Mt. Fuji. It doesn't come off of leave either. I'll have a suitcase load of pictures when I return from this cruise and you and Mom will have to take about two weeks vacation to look at all of them and then we can sit back and talk till the cows come home. OK. I'm sure it is as there isn't anything that I can do about it at the present time. Well, it's almost nine o'clock already and I have to get this in the mail by ten tonight. over.

Say hello to all of the folks for me and tell them that I will write when I can and I promise that I will. Gee you ought to see this typewriter going now as I'm going to the best of my ability. Well, we will be together in less than a year from now and I'll sure be looking forward to that day in the month of May. Just you look out then I'll howl for weeks, maybe even months. Ha Ha. No danger of that though as I'm the quiet type. Ha Ha. Well I won't forget the dishes or the camera gear. Going to WAIKIKI this time for sure.

Well Mom and Dad, so long for now as I want to shower and hit the sack as my neck and shoulder aren't in top shape. Other than that, I'm fine and feeling good. So long for now.

Your loving son,

Bobby

P.S. PLEASE WRITE WHEN YOU CAN.

Love,

Bobbie