

U.S.S. Hornet CVA-12
Photographic Laboratory

14 May 1955

Hi Dad,

How are you doing since you caught all the fish in Pennsylvania? I guess your chest expanded at least five or six inches. Ha Ha. I would have been excited as a kitten in a bird's nest. I sent you a letter yesterday and in it will be an itemized list of the Linhof 2 ¼ x 3 ¼ camera. And another list of prices and etc on the 4x5 Linhof. Please give me some advice on it as I think it would be pretty rough getting a Linhof and Nikon together. I don't know what to do for fear that I might make you PO'd at me for selling Contax and Rolieflex to get a LINHOF 2 ¼ x 3 ¼ or "4x5". Read up on it and see how the prices compare with those in the States and let me know soon as you can. Don't forget to give it careful consideration on it. Time out for a cup of coffee.

I have liberty today but don't feel too well as the cold sure knocked the hell out of me. Sure hit like a ton of bricks. I ought to be alright by the end of this week. I sure hope so as we get back out to sea.

I haven't been out in the sun at all this cruise so far. I'll have to get some sun this coming week or I'll look like a ghost. I've been pretty busy with the supply system. I hope you take a little thought about the camera deal. I know you want a Nikon but I'd sure like to have a Linhof. I know for sure that Dick Schreul is getting a 4x5 Linhof and Burwell is getting a 2 ¼ x 3 ¼ Linhof. So we ought to get quite a discount. I'll get it complete with three lenses.

I haven't eaten at all today. Don't tell Mother or she will worry herself sick. I don't like to eat when I feel ill or sick. My neck is a little sore also. A heck of a lot of fellows on the ship are sick from something or else. There must be some bad food in the galley. Quite a few of the fellows in the lab are sick also. It must be some thing going around. I sure hope I can get rid of this cold. It sure has me down. Well on to the next page as I have to finish this so Dick Schreul can finish his letter that he started this afternoon.

I hope you will give great consideration on the camera deal. Well Dad, I don't have any more letter to answer from you so I'll have to close for now and see if I can think of what to say to Mom. Catch some more fish and send me some pictures. So long for now and take care of yourself and Mom. Also Tiny. So long and don't forget to write when you can.

You Pal,

Bob