

July 19th 1945

Dear Ones,

Last night when I opened up the "What about Harvard" I flipped open to a page which had a picture of Dan Fenn on it - nostalgia swept over me; I really look forward to returning to college. Undoubtedly sitting out here in the New Hebrides I remember only the pleasantness and the happy high spots of college and I forget the times when things did not go as I would have wished - but college certainly strikes me now as the ideal existence. The brochure on Harvard and her post-war plans was not very specific and did not tell me much more than I had already learned from Dave Owen and Professor Seavey. The mail also brought a bunch of Press Herald's - probably the last batch - a Readers' Digest and an Esquire as well as a Bulletin. The Digest contained the Eastman-Rowell original article on China and one of these days I will sit down and digest it and comment on it. I was sorry to read in the paper about Dr Rossman - he must have done very well in his few years in Portland; he was almost Bob Stuart's father-in-law. I really didn't get a laugh out of the picture of Bud Cohen in the May 25th Center Bulletin. I see that he hasn't lost his sense of humor. If that picture was taken when he was 13, it certainly is remarkable how little his facial expression and features have changed.

I was glad to see that Terry got his comic strip island captured without serious mishap. Some time ago I read that Caniff had ended his contract with the Chicago Tribune syndicate and would start a new strip for Marshall Field's papers as soon as the Terry contract expires. Last night I read Andre Malraux's "Mans Fate" which is a study of the Chinese revolution of 1925; the jacket calls it an artistic appreciation of the forces of revolution and the book deserves all the high praise which it has received. It not only is well written but it is related directly to the current Chinese question. I imagine that the book is better in French - the translation did not seem to be as smooth as it might have been. I saw Hal Stein this morning and he is coming over tomorrow night - his outfit will probably be on the move up the line pretty soon.

I got a kick out of your comment on the girl whom I shall chose. Daddy - why don't you make arrangements for all the available and eligible young Miss Warburgs, Guggenheims, etc. to be lined up so that upon my return I can look the field over and take my pick!!! And you can rest assured that the day I get three cars, I am going to hold you to that three-car garage promise - there will be no such extenuating circumstances as prevailed in the famous Sailboat case (See Bernstein vs Bernstein, ex parte Menikoe, Maine 1937-38!!!) I hope that you are right in looking for Ben Cohen to play an important role from his new State Department post, Daddy.

Things continue to be quiet here and it is impossible to predict how long I will be kept on Santo. The odds seem to be that I will be here until the last bell; it is unlikely that Thorpe would be willing to let me go and leave himself as the only Ordnance officer here. And at this stage of the game there are a lot of odds and ends that have to be taken care of and which usually require an Officer's presence if not his participation in the job. Once I do get off, where I will go is just as much a question. Unlike you, Daddy, I do not feel that the invasion of China will be omitted in favor of an attack on the Japanese home islands, leaving Asiatic holdings of the Nips to the Chinese Armies; I think that we will have to effect the two remaining major operations: landings on China and landings on the Japanese home islands and I don't think that we have to wait too long before we see some indications of one or the other, if not the action itself.

That sort of covers things for this noontime - I pull guard again at the end of this week, that is a nuisance and little more as far as I can see. The movie schedule continues to be extremely mediocre and except for the times when we have training films and attendance is compulsory (like tonight) I hardly ever attend. OK for now -

All my love,

Sumner

Regards to Doris