

Dear ones -

Recd  
June 8/44

I am here, safe and sound, and deluged  
with mail. I went swimming to day - the  
water is superb - just warm enough - and there  
is a fine beach. The fort here, in fact all  
facilities are reminders of maneuvers and of  
the fact that we are soldiers - though granted  
up to now the transition has been easy - I  
should say pleasant and enjoyable. I  
heard from and answered Uncle Harold +  
Aunt Mel, Dot Minty (Nashville), and  
Willie; also Al + Estem. I wrote to Dave  
Owen + Everett + Noel; the grandparents;  
and you by V-Mail. I guess Airmail is  
better but either way seems good. Since both  
V-Mail + airmail letters of the 15th were  
here when I got here, I don't know which  
arrived first. One thing: in no letter you  
said that you expected me to write every  
day while on ship board - that was unreasonable.  
I wrote you as complete a report as possible  
(including a character sketch) but I couldn't  
have written daily unless I laid out bridge  
boards I had encountered. There was just



nothing I could write. Of course from here on  
I shall write daily. I know how much mail  
means to you because I know what it means  
to me. It is just a little thing - hell, it  
gave me something to write about right  
then! I got a Jewett Kneass note with  
complete addresses - really swell; also  
acknowledgement by Reader's Digest of your  
subscription for me. Imagine magazines &  
papers take longer than mail to get here.

Thank you also for Sandra's check. Now to  
delve into the stack of some 30 letters from  
Portland - I don't know how I'll do it - they  
cover so many things - but I love it - mail  
rates higher than when I was around here!

First of all - wholesale like - thanks etc for  
dope on 'Furrier, etc, but it is admittedly poor!

Helen Babay, your letters are gems. Glad you like  
your new coat and wig; also I am glad to note  
that in true feminine fashion school news is  
secondary to such things as clothes and parties!

Good for you, Toot!! Incidentally, Miss  
Stahl's bank is worse than her bit; she's O.K.  
Toot, never worry about a blind date - hope for  
the best, be prepared for the worst but that's  
all. No more worrying. That does us good.



I think I already have commented on the Bulletin picture. Only have eyes for you, H.B.

Mother - Thank you for your complete and daily reports on the campaign (for Wign - you called him an individualist at least once a day - getting 30 letters at a crack calls your attention to things like that, I guess.) on Carleton (he did a tough break; personality factor undoubtedly involved; Walter Schwartz certainly did famously - could be expected.) and on the various social problems of Portland by the sea (I am glad that both you + Daddy are making your energies usefully.) Glad you are managing to straighten out the cottage again; also that you can help out the Beeders - anything for the Osgoods - they are punned. Thanks for taking care of the bank account. I won't be using it much now, however. I got a thrill out of your report on Helen Babay's first formal - surely I had been there. Your tact in the campaign and in the Hildeth stuff (keep plugging at that and hard) has been excellent; I don't know what Portland would do without your balance wheel judgment. You are right - don't send anything unless I ask; I do appreciate your thoughts + suggestions, of course, but I must weigh everything; since



everything I get I have to pack + carry some  
or later. My pal's name is LAUE, not LANE.  
But that's excusable, Mother! Uncle Louis is  
doing great - I'll invite him to. Glad the  
campaigns went well - that's a lot of money.  
Glad my stuff came - I'm looking forward to  
that American Legion parade, too. Suggests  
your reports on life in the Pacific Area; as  
for the contacts in Hawaii, I can't say where I  
am but I can say that I am south of the  
equator. Thanks just the same. I get the  
idea that you think your mail to me is  
censored. That is not so - my mail is  
uncensored by me (my signature on the envelope)  
and may or may not be checked by a base  
censor - only outgoing mail is censored.

That covers your mail to me thru about  
May 10. I'll close now - I leave all of Daddy's  
letters, all the literature, and all the remaining  
mail for another letter or letters.

Love

Sumner

I use 8¢ stamps on some of my friends' letters  
just to use them up.