

JUDMS5_BernsteinS_06041944tr

Transcribed by Kara Kralik 06/09/2020

June 4

Dear Ones -

Sunday - we spent today in town - the island metropolis! A city of old world charm. A quiet, little, stagnant city! Houses with inner courts - they give the impression of being boarded up, since they do not open on the street. There are more colored natives than whites. Naturally, this starts immeasurable side comments - especially concerning the women; they look whites [*sic*] all the time! What white women there are on the island are taken care of by the permanent party - they can get cars, jeeps etc. The result is that we, replacements go around just drooling. They have dances - but no stags allowed - so what the hell!! [*Illegible*] and I looked around; we picked up some local currency as souvenirs, drank some beer, played the the [*sic*] slot machines. Always the slot machines!! Plenty of beer, too, so all is well. We ate a good meal and came back to camp. It was a long day - poorly spent - no more trips to town for me.

June 5

It is Monday - another morning of training bored me silly. It will be a pleasure now that I am overseas and do not have weekends to look forward to to get assigned to an outfit & have a regular job, get some spirit. All we're doing now is passing time and it is nauseating. I have to go to the PX and get a lock today. They snapped my combination lock on the boat. Mail is getting serious - I won't seal this until I see if I got any this PM. I have to renew that book of Laski's today at the library. I'll also unpack my stuff, ready to go in case the orders come down in a hurry. Laundry went out today - the stuff comes back clean, even if unpressed. I should get a haircut and clean my rifle. Right now I'm thinking of mail call! Well I'll close now & write at length tonight.
Love -

Sumner