

Netherlands East Indies
20 Oct 44

Darling,

Well, I'm writing you again from the hospital--but it's nothing to get excited about. I had a slight temperature so the doc thought I'd better come down for a checkup day before yesterday, and so now they've decided it must have been something I et, so I'll be kicked out tomorrow. I feel fine.

Today I received some more back mail--August 6 to 22, and yesterday I received two letters, V-Mail of Oct 2 and airmail of Oct 5. So I feel I'm pretty lucky.

Yes, I suppose the kids have been doing some bragging--it doesn't take much for kids to brag, and I certainly haven't done anything to brag about. In the ward with me (I am at Col Ford's place) are some Infantry officers, and they're the ones who have done the things. Those infantry boys who night aft r night stand watch in their pillboxes--they're the ones who are fighting this war. While we back in the rear echelons sleep on cots and see an occasional movie, even.

Tonight, frinstance, I saw "Wintertime" with Sonja Henie--you can imagine how old that picture was. That was after having a supper of bacon and eggs (real honest to goodness eggs) with Morel and Paul Hudson.

Paul Hudson, incidentally, has been recommended for his captaincy--only he doesn't know it yet. He's from Morton.

I'm sure the house must look fine now that it's all dressed up. Like living someplace else. I received a letter from Mama dated the 5th, also. I'm enclosing it--part of it--on account of what she says.

You and Mamma both write about how much the kids have grown, so I'm sure I wouldn't know them. And, I expect they won't know their gray-haired old man when he comes staggering home one of these days, either.

I finally found my footlocker today, but it had been rifled. My typewriter was left in it, but I lost my Gruen wrist watch, Ronson lighter, a pen and pencil set and the hunting knife Andrew sent me. I'll put in a claim and will probably get something, but nothing could replace them.

In your letter of Aug 6 you spoke about it being so hot, but by the time you receive this, no doubt it will be cool weather there. There isn't much change in temperature here, as we're still not very far from the equator (although on the right side of it again) and our only weather

changes are from sunshine to rain--which we had plenty of today.

I suppose you heard this morning of the invasion of the Phillippines. That's going to be a nasty fight I'm sure, and I'm not kicking that we didn't make that landing. Fact is, I think ours must have been one of the easiest landings in the Pacific. I don't know Bobbie Stehenson, but I'll try to look him up.

I got a letter today from Sgt Murray (Aussie) who has been on leave and he said he had mailed me a bottle of wine. Wish we could drink it together this Christmas, but if it gets here I'll just drink it and think of you.

You can tell Stella Strawberry I appreciate her letter signed Nancy, and would like to have her done up in a nice shortcake.

We've run out of stamps so I'll have to send this ordinary mail, but perhaps it won't be delayed too much, and I'm sure we'll have some air mail envelopes in soon.

Loads of love to all,

Q