



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

November 14, 1943

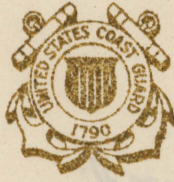
Dearest Folks;

It's cold in New York! I guess about time to bring out the longies.

This has been an eventful weekend for at least two members of the A. family. Gene and I spent yesterday afternoon and this morning together. It certainly was swell to have been together and to spend some time with each other - I hope that we can do it again.

I left here yesterday (Sat) at 11:00 in the A.M. for Baltimore Md. where ~~Gene~~ Gene was. On the way I stopped over in Philadelphia for about 3 hours. I went down to Independence Hall and saw the Liberty Bell - the place where Mr. Washington made the first flag, and many historical buildings in that area. I certainly was thankful for the opportunity of seeing these places. Now they mean more than mere names.

I met Gene in Baltimore at 5:00. He had arranged quarters for me there at the Base so ~~we~~ we were together practically all the time while I was there.



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this A.M. he ~~by~~ helped in two services - both negro. the first a communion service at 7:30 in. there were about 40 negro men that took it. then Gene and I and another chaplain took communion. Strange - an enlisted man - an officer taking communion in a negro church service, where else could it happen except in a house of God. I guess that it proves that all things are possible with gods, or thru him.

This has been an exceptional week for mail. A letter from Bob - one from Audrey and also one from Mother. I am sorry to hear of the whaleys moving. they certainly have ment a lot to other folk than their house on the beach.

while in Philadelphia it snowed - my first on the east coast. It has been really cool here in the city, but I dont mind it to much. I also bought some Christmas cards while in Philadelphia. they are really nice. Christmas isnt to far away is it? I think I will come home and help decorate the church. a nice thought even tho it isnt possible.

over

School is proceeding alright. we are getting or I should say begining to get about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of studying now an evening.

the church paper came today "Mountain Music" thanks a lot Dad. It is good.

Mother asked me what I wanted for Christmas while I was in Colo. Here are a few suggestions a white scarf - leather gloves (black) also stationery (Coast Guard preferred) Sox also come in handy (part wool ones)

time to quit now for a while - I think of you all often and wish that it was the whole family instead of just Gene & that got together today.

Love
Jim

P.S. Hi Chetty - Hi Rich - Hi Barb. I put Dusty first because he is the only one who really has an excuse not to write to me.

P.S.S. I forgot to mention the second service Gene took part in - a negro church service for the "Boots" it was compulsory and there were about 1500 men there. the choir was marvelous - being directed by one of the former wings over Jordan men -

Jim