

Sunday March 12, 1944

Dearest Folks,

another busy week is past and Sunday has come and is now quite gone. I hope you have had a good day today my thoughts have gone your way very often today. I thought of last Sunday and my call to you. This has been a very good week for me as far as mail goes. Letters from Dad, Gene, Bob, Audrey, Miss Johnson (my good history teacher) and of course Janice G. I missed hearing from mother but certainly did appreciate two letters and also a swell date cake that came from her the week before. Thanks a lot for the cake mom. It almost made me home sick for some good cooking - your way. Also after the church experience I had this A.M. I am anxious to hear some good music and a fine sermon again. But more about that later.

Now for some news of the week. Mon. Tue. and Wed I spent working on Underwater sound equipment. The principle of it is much similar to that of radar in that it sends out a signal then receives the echo of the signal it sends out. Salt water had gotten into the projector head (grouped antenna) and a new head had to be installed. After it was in working

condition a trial run had to be made so I went along. The run was from a dry dock (near Government Island) out past the Golden Gate Bridge and back to Treasure Island. While we were going down the estuary from Government Isl. I turned it (the equipment) in direction toward a ship that was in the water but being worked on. Anyway I could hear, thru earphones, the men riveting aboard her and it was 2755 feet away according to the scale which is a part of the equipment. On the days of the rest of the week I spent them working on some more sound gear on a light ship. Altogether I had an very interesting week one in which I felt that I have been doing something worth while.

Wednesday when I was at Government Isl. I saw Gordon Hill. He has been here all the time and is going to quartermaster school since his boat company broke up. I have never seen anyone change so much. When I was here before he was quite fat, with two or three double chins. He was sick for a while and now he is "40" pounds lighter than before. It is to the good tho for he could afford to loose some of it. When I saw him we made plans to meet today so at 9:00 this A.M. I met him and we spent the day together.

we started off by going to toothaker's church. that church certainly has slipped since I was there last. It ~~was~~ maybe because toothaker has not improved but anyway there were only about $\frac{2}{30}$ less there filling up the sanctuary. I don't see how toothaker (headaker) can stay there so long. His sermon was terrible. I know that it is an awful thing to say about ~~anyone~~ anyone but it is true. No wonder no wonder there was so few there. the churches of the bay region certainly are passing up the best chance they will ever have to do some good work here. there is not really one strong church here, I don't think. No wonder labor is ill at ease in the ship yards here. Nuff said. after church we went to the oakland Hospitality House and had dinner. we spent the afternoon walking around and talking and ended up at Gouverneur Is. where he showed me letters from Max (in Hawaii) and Merle Legg. It was good to hear or see letters from them again.

Say Ruth I am sending some words that Gordon gave me. - note Jester Bells - I am also enclosing dad's check. I didn't need it but thanks anyway. In another month I will be squared away so I can start sending some money home.

I am also getting the pictures that Gene
and I took while in Wash. D.C. developed so
I shall send you some.

By the way Gordens Folks are coming
down here the 24th of this month. and I
will certainly try and see them.

another thing, I saw Mr. Harris (remember
mother) in church this A.M. I told him who
I was but I dont think he remembered me. He
said that Mrs. Harris is quite ill.

It is late and another day is almost on the
way and besides 6:30 comes early. (I leave at 7:20
to get there by 8:00) so until you hear from me

Lot of love

Jim -