



14 Sept. 1944

Dearest Folks,

I have just returned from the beach where I was watching the surf. This Hurricane which is coming this way has already peeled it for the surf is tremendously high. The breakers are from 35 to 45 feet high and when they crack they put all other noises to shame. As I watched I felt so very close for somehow he has a way of speaking that way. I remembered how much Dad liked to watch the surf - I wish that you could be here to see it. There is something about it that holds on to me. Yesterday afternoon I helped the man here post his storm warnings and then I went to town in the mail truck. But I am ahead of myself I had better back track.

I got off work at 1200 and the truck brought us back here to the station. We had chow, and each had some washing I started it. I had been washing for 5 minutes when we were called in the recreation hall and the Ensign said he had some news for us. We were to have 6 days leave en route to Philadelphia, well half the fellows (who live on this coast really sounded happy) but the rest of us didn't like it. We asked the ensign if it were possible for us who lived west of the Mississippi if we could leave immediately, but no for us had to leave

a physical Saturday morning. we tried to have our physical immediately but they couldn't do it.

the first thought was to see if some of the Family could come half way out that was impractical for mother is going to Seattle and that meant the rest would have to stay around home school, the baby and also it would be quite an expense. About the only thing left ~~was~~ was to go to Chicago. there I can leave 3 days with Janice and that will be swell. Also I am trying to spend this week end with Dick. It certainly would be swell if we could get together. I am going to send him a wire this A.M. what ever turns up I will let you know.

It certainly was wonderful to hear you last night. I guess when I was finished I got a little homesick. It would be wonderful if I could get home, but there's not enough time.

today mother leaves for the west coast. I hope she has a good trip. I envy Audrey in having ^{her} ~~her~~ with her.

I must stop and start packing my sea bag - it seems most of my time lately has been spent packing + unpacking - swell -

lots of love
Jim