

The Marianas Is.  
25 February 1945  
Sunday Evening -

Dearest Folks,

Good evening to all of you - mind if I drop in for a cup of tea and some of mother's nut bread - smell. Um that just feels good -

this has been ~~an~~ very good week for me - very good. First let me tell you the big news. Remember last Sunday I mentioned first working - ton D.C. then San Francisco, well it has happened again - you I saw GENE - Boy, was it wonderful to see him to - It gave me one of the happiest moments that I have had since coming out here - yes, the happiest.

But let me give you more details. It was Friday afternoon (about 1730) and I was out here on watch. I was doing some work here when the telephone rang (we have a phone here in this hut and also one in the officers hut) well as usual I didn't answer it for the C.O. usually answers it during the day time. Any way about 5 min. after it rang one of the fellows came running out and said "beginning the phones for you -". I answered it and the voice said "is this James Albertson"? I said "yes"

J.A. Albertson

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and then came back "this is your Brother  
Gene". well you can about guess my  
surprise: after I found my stranger, asked  
him where he was, how long he would be here,  
and etc." well he was at the docks, and  
he was to be on this island over night - having  
some work to do for about an hour. In no time  
I had a fella stand by for me or watch - then  
I obtained permission to use the jeep and  
went down to the docks to see him. Say, he  
certainly is looking good - a nice tan, and  
altho he hasn't gained any weight neither has  
he lost any. also he had full lbs. Bone on - o.k.  
well!!! (Capt. in the army). He had a fella  
with him (Enlisted man) whose brother is buried  
here and Gene brought him over to see his brother  
grave. we all piled in the jeep and I then  
took him up to where he was to have his order  
endorsed. that took about twenty minutes and  
then he had the rest of the night to himself.  
I brought him up here to the base, gave him  
a bite to eat, and after making up his bed  
we took off for a walk. First I showed him  
around the base - the quonsets and etc. then  
we went down on the beach and sat down

J. H. Albertson R.T. 7C

and talked. He is on an island very near here - and has been there for almost a month and a half. He thought I was further south of here but later found out from another Chaplin that I was here. This censorship is really strict so he may not be able to mention our meeting.

We talked until about eleven and as we had to get up at 0600 so he could start back by 0900 (after doing a little work here), we went back to the hut. Sam took a hot shower - while I and he talked in low whispers - then we went to bed. 0600 came around to ~~and~~ soon for both of us. The cook gave him some hot coffee and then we headed back. On the way towards the place he had to go we stopped at a marine division cemetery and went in and saw Richard Sloots grave. I always get a strange feeling when I see a cemetery like that one - something inside of me keeps saying, why?

why? why?

This fellow he brought over was with us so (I had my camera) we had him take our picture there together. It was quite early, so I hope we had light enough. Then we started on - and we reached his place about 0715.

J.H. Albertson Pt 2c

It was so hard to say goodbye to him -  
I wonder where our next meeting shall be. It  
is strange how we have both stuck together  
so far - we both commented on the fact.

Very but it was good to talk with him - it  
was what I needed depress - just to talk about home,  
your folks and what we had been doing; with  
some one so close like that.

I would like to see him again which he  
is so close but I doubt if it would be possible.  
If you are writing to Sally soon will you tell  
her about our meeting - I want to write her but  
I don't know just when I shall be able to do so.

Chapel this morning was again good. The  
Chaplain talked about David and Balaith (SP) - how  
the church and the work of God are like the stone  
in the sling - where each of us fits into the  
church - our responsibilities there. One thing  
I miss which he doesn't use many of - that  
is illustrations with his sermons. Oh how I  
would like to be able to hear Dad again, soon.

The rest of the week has been uneventful -  
but seeing Gene would compensate for all the  
uneventful days there are out here - and then some.

I am relieved that final word has come from  
Seattle. I too feel like the rest of you about the

J. A. Allerton. R. T. 3/6

Delay was too long to show a completely healthy church, altho I know we would have all liked to go back up to the N.W. had the conditions been right.

It was good to get mother and Dads mail this week - it is always good. They are really some thing to look forward to. I also received a letter from Mrs. Young. I had sent her some money to get Janice some ones for Valentines Day - she said that she had gotten them - also told about their family oct. Janice has had a cold and she missed a couple days school - but now she is up and healthy. I will be glad when we are able to be together again.

I must close now - it has been good to talk with you - I wish I might drop in and talk with you in person - Good night for now - may God bless you always

Love to you -  
Jim

Gene must be on Tigris, dont you think?

JH Albertson RT 3/4  
653-340

Send this wonderful Sally? - please send on to Audrey and Audrey on to Ruth and Ruth please send back to "home base" Thanks so much Love  
mom.