

Monday



UNITED STATES NAVY

Dear Mom, Pop, and Brats,

Read all your Valentines and letters. The Valentines are nice. We don't have liberty tonight and Frank + the boys went to the show on the base here. "Lighting Leases" or something. I get tired of these war pictures. They're a pain in the ass. Saturday I saw Fred Macmurray and Claudette Colbert in a good picture. It was funny. I get a kick out of something humorous. "Fried Wife" is a good picture too. I think they ought to make more of those kind.

Well, I don't think it'll be long now before it's 'Shoo Shoo Baby.' They're making us over into a gunboat. This means we won't beach but just lay off shore in an invasion and throw up a anti aircraft barrage + strafe the shore. I don't know whether it's good or bad. It is an experiment. Don't worry about me when I go over Mom 'cause I'll be back - just like a bad penny. If something does happen to our ship, Pop, be sure and play the number.

'Pop' the cook is moaning to the pharmacist's mate right now. He came out and played football with us this afternoon and is stiff as a board. He's just a big kid at heart but sometimes he gets a grouch or that lasts for days. Something like you Mom. Connolly and I bid him unmercifully about the show. It's good though. We have chicken every Sunday, ice cream every day. Frank and I have the run of the gallery because we always pitch in and give




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

him a hand when he needs it. Scraping + polishing the
stoves + stuff like that. Eds and Connolly made croissants
other night for supper. It tasted like rat poison. The cook
calls us the 'Prima Donnas'. We and Frank always have four
in night watches when we're out and we sleep late + then
come up and demand eggs, sunnyside up. - We always
opt 'em, too.

Hope I don't spoil him for you. He'll
be a tough one to please when he
gets back
Pop.

I hope I get to see Johnny Burns before we go. I haven't
saw him for over a year I guess. I got pictures for Grandma
Aunt Carrie, + Aunt Agnes, + Aunt Belle. Don't tell them. Maybe
you better soften the shock for some of the ones with weaker hearts,
tho. I look like 'the ghoul'! Saw him in the movies, too.
That's all I do anymore is go to movies + read books. 'The ghoul'
looks just like Homer when he gets up in the morning.
By the way, your picture is the biggest. Thought I'd better
tell you.

Can't think of much more to write. Nothing ever
happens around here. Write soon and give my love
to the Malloys, Aunt Carrie, and the rest.

All my love + kisses, in stuff
Rich




UNITED STATES NAVY

(P.S.

- Since I wrote that letter we have moved to San Pedro which is 130 miles farther upstate. I have been here two nights. I went to Los Angeles the other night + Longbeach last nite. Longbeach is something like Seaside. We got a hop to Longbeach with two civilians from Philly. They used to hang out in Riverside + know all the people I do. Small world isn't it? Then after we got there we met a friend of Homers from Mt. Holly who I know.

Homer + I are going to hop it to P ego Friday + get those pictures. We are being cowarted up here. From what I hear it may be three weeks before they're through with us so it don't look like I will be leaving as soon as I thought. As soon as I find out something definite I'll let you know. I saw my boy Frankie ^{Smarter} in the movies last night. Longbeach is a nice place. Swarms of women + stuff. There's a wave base there. Think I'll get the skipper to stay here for the summer.

O 'I'll write again soon.) (we're about 20 miles from Hollywood. Franks + I have to travel incognito with dark glasses + muzzies so these damn talent scouts will get off our backs)

Saturday 19

P.S. [(again) Well this is the third time I've opened this damn letter. I haven't got around to mailing it. I already sent the picture. Yes.



UNITED STATES POSTAGE

7
yesterday

Homer and I hopped it to Diego & got there. It was a nice trip. The highway follows the ocean all the way down. We passed Del Mar, Bing's race track. It has a big sign with - Pres. G. Crosby - Vice President - Pat O'Brien. We ate in their restaurant, Cokes + hamburgers. Hamburgers at 29¢ per. There is the prettiest place you'd want to see about half way called Laguna beach. I guess a lot of swells live there.

We just got paid and we have a 12 hr pass coming up. Me, Frank, Homer, + Red are going to Hollywood and shoot the works. Rent a couple of hotel rooms + have one last fling for a spell. As soon as I get out to sea half my pay will be sent home. I going to make out the allowance when I get to Diego. This will be about \$40 a month. I make \$94 now what with sea pay

+ rated dough. I got paid \$5 this last payday. It cost me 13 for all the pictures. After they knock off for insurance + bonds I get about 80. Not bad huh? I don't want you to save any of it for me.

~~XX~~
~~XX~~

. Well so long again.
 All my love, kisses, in' stuff again
 Rich
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Handwriting getting bad huh

Richard W. ... On 3/2

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