

19 April 1944

Dear Mom:

So we are in khakis today. And the joke of it all is that it was very warm until yesterday and today it is rather chilly. However, it is nice to be in ckc's again. ckc stands for Cotton Khaki Clothing in army slang.

Received your letter yesterday. Am worried over your blind boil but feel that it should be almost well by now. Those things are very dangerous. If anything should happen to you while I am away - I'd go crazy. Please take care of yourself. Beginning this morning, we had to get up for reveille at 6:15. It is really tough - since we have been rather lax about it till now and have been sleeping until 7:30 or so. Guess we might as well get used to it although in the field we get up at all times in the morning.

Just saw dollar a few minutes ago. He says that Grace wrote to him saying that "Jane was sure going to be a knockout when she grows up". Well anyone with my blood should be quite something or another - I was proud and happy to hear that. Hope she has the brains to go with it.

So Peter is growing bigger every day. He must be quite an unusual youngster for so many people to say so many nice things about him and I am very very proud. Don't get him big headed by praising him too much or he might turn priggish which again would be bad - but knowing Peter and myself so well, doubt if he will ever be that way. I am sending you a few pictures taken in the field of friends and myself and the posters I wrote to you about. You will like it.

Saturday evening I stayed in the office and went to bed rather early after an afternoon at a party given by the Episcopal rector in town a Rev. Morgan. We had rather a dull time drinking tea and chewing on cakes and listening to some would-be mezzo soprano go up and down the scale. So I sneaked over to the USO and got a guitar player and a singer and gave them a couple of Hawaiian pieces. Then I sang a couple of Hawaiian songs and made the party more or less interesting. They really liked it - anything Hawaiian really goes over big no matter in what part of the country you are in and guess we can at least thank the chamber of commerce for making it easy for us. Notice wherever I go when I say I am from Hawaii, the people just perk up and take a great interest in us.

Came home early and to bed - on Sunday morning I had to speak. I always get a full house no matter when I speak - but then guess it's because my sermons are prepared, an advantage I had from ~~being~~ my sermons over. Had over 250 people in the small chapel and full to overflowing - I spoke on prejudice and goodwill and kind of took a subtle poke at churches that don't practice equal racial attendance. Chaplain West being a southerner didn't seem to like it but the men and officers really went a big way for it. I enjoyed speaking on it - but then the sermon was not an inflammatory one, just pointing out that we as Christians must practice treating all men as brothers.

After the service and lunch I went into town to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Sugi and Mrs. and Mrs. Nishitani. Didn't do much except sit and talk - and went for a little walk with Sugi and Nish as the day was so nice. Later we had supper there of tempura and tsukemono which was very nice. Came home at 9 and went to bed. This morning I got up for reveille alright - and from now



Am glad that you got the orchids. I had planned it a long time ago for Easter wouldn't be so nice without some flower to wear. Wish I could do the same for May Day but guess May Day is not lei day anymore - it must be bond day.

I feel as if I am missing so much of Peter's best days. Peter must be mature by now in thinking and feel badly that I have missed or am missing his transition years. He will be eight years old next month - eight years old.

I am sending one of my formal suits and my grey topcoat to Lad this week. I have two suits - one I will keep it with me and the top coat won't be very useful to me from now on in since war after all is not a picnic. I have been checking up on mail coming in from overseas and find that regular mail doesn't take very much longer than v mail. so ~~Spoifcandswhen~~ we go over I can write to you as I have been doing although I am sure that you'll get them in batches anyway when that day comes.

I have been thinking of getting a short leave next week to see Alice and the folks but guess I cannot. However, know that Tak will be happy over it.

Received a letter from Doc yesterday which made me happy no end. Will write to him right away - he is such a nice feller and I miss him a lot. He says that he is waiting for me to cheer up the old home again - when we come back, you'll have to let me out one night or a couple of nights for a stag party. One with Doc and one with Kito and gang - and also with Shinso. I hope that Shinso won't be called in on the draft - he should get a commission but know that he will not enjoy army life. To be free and in one's own profession and then to come into army discipline is going to be rather tough on any man, but discipline is so necessary in any army.

Well, mom - take care of yourself and keep on writing to me here. Don't worry about me - I'll be homesick and lonesome right along as I have been always a homesick boy ever since I can remember. Just keep your fingers crossed until I come back - and then we will be together for keeps this time. Thanks for the letter and aloha to obachan and a kiss and a hug to the children. It still is kind of funny to say children - but children it is.

love

Doc.

P.S. Just looked over my finances - cannot send anything for your birthday since I won't be paid for this month. You'll understand.