

December 15, 1943

Dear Mom:

Back in camp after the most miserable five days I think I had ever had in all my life. Shortly after writing that letter to you we were ordered to move again. We moved up about six miles and found a new place to camp - this time I made sure that we had our tent up as I did not want to get caught in the rain. The first thing to do is of course to build a fire to see what you are doing and to warm up your fingers when they get numbed. We set up the tent and I went immediately to bed - I had a tough time trying to keep my ears warm but finally solved the problems by wearing a cap and part of a sock. Slept until six then next morning - it was really tough getting up. It was below freezing in weather - the water in my canteen was frozen into ice so had to warm that before washing (I still wash) - I went to the mess tent and borrowed some hot water to comb my hair with. When I ran my comb through my hair - I found it turned to almost a solid mass of ice. I wanted to cuss - but then said to myself "keep cool Higuchi, keep cool."

Thus passed another day - in the PM I went around visiting the different company's and men. Had a grand time talking to the boys although the weather was not very conducive for chinning so to speak. Came back to camp and spent the part of the evening talking to Lt. Fukushima. A nice feller, a law graduate from Harvard - and had an office in Honolulu.

I go to sleep every night thinking of home and of the new baby and of Peter. I suppose Peter is still very much curious concerning . . . Yamato just brought a letter and a box - a letter from Constance Barnes telling me about her visit to you. Tell her I appreciated that more than anything else because it was the first letter telling me of you and all about your condition. She is very nice. Will you thank her for me as Lord knows I just don't know when I will ever get a chance to write to her. Kuakini hospital, painless birth, all in all a wonderful thing to hear. So Peter at that time has not seen the baby yet. Has he come to see you? I suppose he came rushing in on did he tip toe in? I can just hear him say "where's the baby Mom? Let me see her, huh? and a million and one things that he could ask.

So far I have received so many things. A gift from Hank, and Alice, a pair of woolen socks from Mae, and a toilet set from both of them, thirty dollars from the church kids and fifty dollars from Eddie. People are so nice to remember me - Christmas cards from quite a few of our people too.

Miss Barnes said that she was also sending me a checker board. That will be appreciated.

I am anxiously waiting a letter from Sam or somebody telling me about the baby for no doubt you will not have a chance to write for some time as yet.

I am leaving for another week of bivouac next week for a full week so perhaps you will not hear from me again for a while. However, I will



try to write from the field, The mail is coming through a little better isn't it. Although for the Xmas season I expect a little jam up. Did you receive the money I sent you at the beginning of the month. Did you receive the handbag that I sent you - I had to repack it and so don't know if it was spoilt or not. If there is anything you need just let me know.

Next month will make my sixth month in the army. I feel as if I have been in for six years - feel very much like a veteran now after the rigorous program carried on here. Some day soon I suspect I will need everything I learn here.

How is Jane. Does she look like Peter? She must be cute. It was a huge baby for a girl and surprised me no end to get the telegram giving her weight. I bet Obachan is very happy and no doubt she just dotes on Jane. What did you name her?

So you got Peter's Toys. I sent three packages. The English Toy, the wooden tank carrier and a book on astronomy. I also had three little rattlers for Jane. I am not buying any other gifts nor any cards for this Christmas. It saves a lot of time - perhaps you can send them from there to the people in the islands we have to remember and sign for both of us.

Please call Horace up and tell him that I send my best regards to the church and will be print that in the next Bulletin he gives out. I think I owe him a letter - tell him that I enjoyed his letter so much but due to the workout I'm getting here - just about decided to give up writing for a little while.

love

Dad.