

Oct 17, 1945
Japan.

Dear Mom & All,
I am truly sorry that I haven't been able to write sooner but I know you will forgive me now that you know my story.

Yes, we finally landed here in Japan. I am on the island of Kyushu. The city near is called Sasabo. This is one of their large naval bases & I am more than glad to say that our occupation is a large success. The people all seem happy that we are here but most of all, they are happy that the war is over.

Just a little bit about my self now. We had quite a long voyage. We left the island of Maui (Hawaiian Is) the 29th of Aug. and stopped over in Pearl Harbor for two days. On the 13th of September we arrived at Saipan & stayed over there for a few days before sailing for this place. All in all, I have been quite busy the

past few weeks & having full cooperation from the Japanese people has been a big help.

Believe it or not Mom, not "one" shot has been fired & the only & best way to discipline our present situation here in Japan is that it is a huge success. I have been wondering how many people in America realize such a landing here in Japan could be possible. I mean with such good cooperation from the people.

At the present I am fine. That is up to a certain point? I want to come home now the worst way. I can honestly say that I feel that my job is done. I am ready to take off my uniform & leave the rest which has to be done up to the boys who were fortunate enough to spend the worst part of the war back there in the states. As strange as it may seem, I do believe I will be a civilian soon. I have points enough to get a discharge.

Two different groups of our boys have already gone back home for discharges & I am expecting to be leaving here within the next month or two. I could be mistaken about that, but I rather doubt it because I have spent more months over seas than I was supposed to have. If we could get some replacements in to relieve us, there wouldn't be any doubt about going home soon. As soon as things straighten out more, I mean with the big shots, we will know more about what to expect concerning our present status.

Personally I think we will all end up at home.

It has been several months since I heard from any of the boys. I am anxious to know what has become of you. Please let me know will you.

That is, let me know what you know.

My Mom, I finally received the high school annual which you sent & I want you to know that I really

enjoyed looking through it. Perhaps it would be best if I didn't mail the pictures back to you. A lot of our mail has been lost in typhoons which we have been having & maybe one of these days soon I can't give them back to you in person.

Now that I am so close to being a civilian again it scares me. What do I know about being a civilian? ^{Oh} Mom, what in the world will I do with myself. I have no idea what kind of work I want to do. What will it be Mom.

Incidentally, I have no lady friend any more. It's all my fault & I do regret telling her not to write anymore. I can honestly say that she was a swell girl. Just being able to write ~~her~~ instead of seeing her once in a while got tiresome & guess I now truly regret being so foolish with her. Men are foolish creatures aren't they Mom? At least if I ever get the chance to make up with her, my

pride or stubbornness won't stop me from asking for forgiveness. I did wrong & I am not afraid to admit it. Since I have been in the Marine Corps, I have learned to be frank with myself or anyone else & it certainly pays.

The Marine Corps has done your son Phil a lot of good & I think it has made a man out of him even if he does act hogish at times. After all I am a boy at heart & I want to stay that way when possible. If I must act like a man I think I can, at least I am satisfied in thinking that I can.

Well Mom, I will be closing. I hope this letter reaches you soon & when you answer, tell me all the news about the boys.

Love & kisses to all

Phil
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