

15 November 1945

Dear June,

Time is going so fast now that I can hardly keep up with it. Since my last letter, I have moved again and during that time I had quite an experience. I guess I am one of the very very few soldiers that will leave Japan and say he saw the Emperor. I not only got to see him, I had to guard him and I saw him so much I was ready to shoot him myself. Can you imagine that, 3 months ago I would have given anything to kill him and now here I am guarding him.

It seemed that he had to report to the God that Japan lost the war so he came down to one of the most ancient shrines at the town of Uji Yamada. He must have had a lot to tell him as he was there for a day and a half. All that time, I had to be in that town to see that no JGs broke up his parades. As it turned out, the only JGs around were my driver and myself. I really have no complaints though as it was a nice two day vacation with a jeep

thrown in with it. You have no idea how devoted
the people are to him until you see the way they
act when he comes by. It is so quiet you could hear
a pin drop, and everyone stands near bows to the
ground. The only way I could think of to insult him
was to just stand and look at him so I didn't
bow, salute or nothing. I just stood and stared
at him. At one time as he passed by me, I just
looked him right in the eye and he just looked at me.
What a dumb looking banana he is. He looks
just like his picture and maybe a little dumber
if that is possible.

You can't begin to imagine the life I lived
these thoughts two days though. You would have thought
I was an ambassador or something, the way I was
treated. Even this newspaper reporters interviewed
me. The police dept couldn't do to much. I stayed
at the best hotel in town and the police officials gave
a dinner for me. In a way I feel silly telling you
all this as I know you can never believe it. I can
hardly believe it myself but this occupation is a
life that you can't realize until you get in on it.

Well I come back to my base camp for
a couple of days, that is the one when I was telling
you we had the apartment with the sun porch.
Tomorrow, I am going to a army post near a town
called Nara, for a few days. There is going to be a
dedication and so I am going to carry the colors.